No lawyers; Abu Sayyaf arraignment reset STORY ON PAGE A2

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PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2001 ★ 56 PAGES 5 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 223 ₱15

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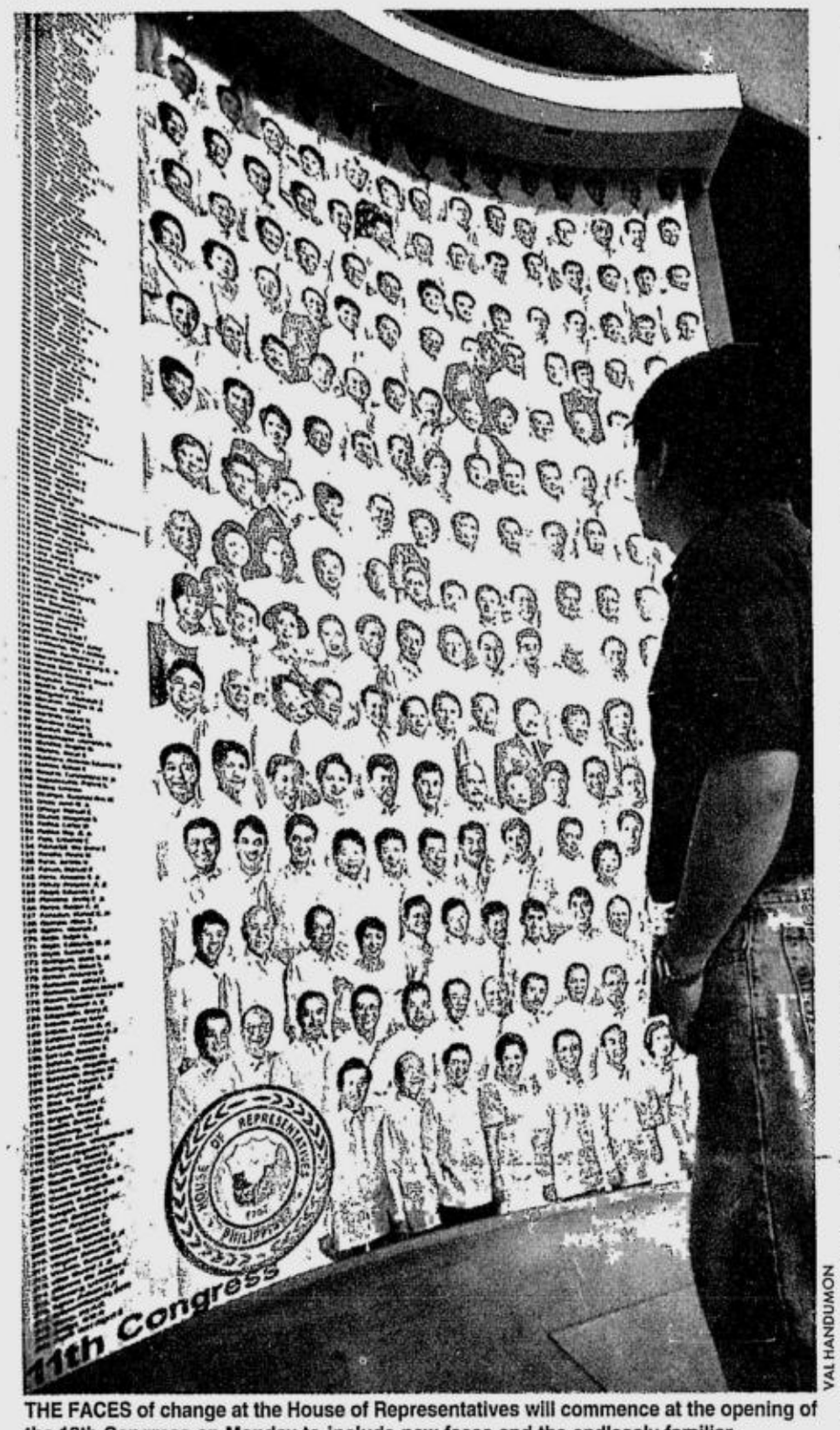
- Lino Brocka remembered

DUNST



THE FACES of change at the House of Representatives will commence at the opening of the 12th Congress on Monday to include new faces and the endlessly familiar.

VAL HANDUMON

Pimentel may yet stay on as Senate boss

'Progressive' alliance of 17 senators emerges, says John O

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM

THE FRACTIOUS People Power Coalition may fail to unseat Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. when Congress opens Monday, administration Sen. Juan Flavier warned yesterday.

Flavier, who is brokering talks among administration senators aspiring for the Senate presidency, said that if it fails to muster 13 votes behind one candidate next week, the PPC may have to allow Pimentel to lead the Senate until the ruling party resolves its thorny issues.

He made the warning as independent Sen. John Osmeña, whose ambition of heading the powerful finance committee has also caused a rift in the PPC, announced that his vote would go to Pimentel.

In a statement, the former opposition senator said a new bloc of 17 senators could emerge amid the political disarray.

"In view of the seeming inability of both sides, the People Power Coalition and the Puwersa ng Masa, to gather enough votes to constitute a majority in the Senate, a progressive alliance is building support behind incumbent Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr.," Osmeña said.

He said the progressive alliance "could include" LDP Senators Edgardo Angara, Blas Ople, Rodolfo Biazon, Teresa Aquino-Oreta, Vicente Sotto III and Lakas Senators Flavier, Renato Cayetano, Loren Legarda, Robert Barbers and Ramon Magsaysay.

Also with them, he said, are Senators Franklin Drilon, Sergio Osmeña III, Robert Jaworski, Ramon Revilla, Noli de Castro and, of course, Pimentel.

But Ople ruled out any possibility of joining the group, insisting that the opposition continued to be united. He said they numbered nine, counting John Osmeña. Ople said they would muster 14 votes, including the independents, by Monday.

Flavier said the problems created by Drilon's insistence on giving Osmeña the plum post of finance committee chair may cause the PPC to lose the 13 votes needed to unseat Pimentel.

Sergio Osmeña, who also has his eye on the

PIMENTEL/ A5

We can't afford to be gloomy –Gloria

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said that while the economic situation was far from perfect, the country should fight for survival and the hoped-for prosperity.

It was her response to a Makati Business Club survey showing that investors' confidence had turned from boom to gloom six months after Joseph Estrada was ousted and she was installed as the country's 14thPresident.

"We cannot pretend that everything is fine and dandy," Ms Macapagal said at her press conference in Malacañang. "But I don't think we can afford to be gloomy

WE CAN'T/ A5

'I'll never know the meaning of my name'

BY BETH PANGO-FRIAS

NORTH RYDE, SYDNEY—Twenty-year-old Sef Gonzales sang in a faint voice a Mariah Carey song "One Sweet Day" at a Mass before his murdered father, mother and sister were buried yesterday.

Yellow, purple and white flowers laced the coffins of Sef's father Teddy, his mother Mary Loiva and younger sister Clodine, which lay side-by-side at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church here.

Their smiling pictures were displayed on their coffins as hundreds of mourners joined Sef in saying goodbye to them.

Sef said he would never find out the real meaning of his name, which his father promised to tell him when he turns 21 in September.

"I will never find out the meaning of my name because it was taken away along with my father," said the law student, who discovered the massacre when he came home from a late night out on July 10.

I'LL/ A15

GMA unveils package of benefits for poor

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

SIX months into her presidency, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo announced a package of benefits for the poor, including a P20-billion budget for mass housing, and then proceeded to the trading hall of the Philippine Stock Exchange to touch base with the business community.

It was a busy day yesterday for Ms Macapagal, who was installed President through "People Power II" on Jan. 20. In the morning she was present at the inauguration of the "Edsa Dos" mural as well as a Mass celebrated by Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin and attended also by former Presidents Corazon Aquino and Fidel Ramos.

The powerful trio, all veterans of people power, expressed support for the President and called on the public to give her "all the help she can get."

Addressing the Metro Manila Urban Poor summit at the packed Araneta Coliseum in Cubao, Quezon City, the President—whom her housing adviser Mike Defensor introduced as "Gloria *ng masa* (of the masses)"—disputed criticisms that her visits to impoverished communities were meant only to improve her image.

She said her concern for the poor was for real and that she derived happiness from mingling with them and visiting their humble homes.

GLORIA/ A5

Militants say cuts in oil prices peanuts

BY RONNEL W. DOMINGO AND PHILIP C. TUBEZA

THE 15-to 20-centavo reduction in petroleum prices is aimed to boost the image of President Macapagal-Arroyo ahead of her State of the Nation Address (Sona) on Monday, a militant group yesterday said.

"This is the Big Three's (oil companies) reply to distress calls sent by the Palace. It is a concession given to President Macapagal-Arroyo to make her first Sona impressive," the fishermen's group Pamalakaya said.

Gerry Albert-Corpuz, Pamalakaya information officer, said the price cuts were meant to douse cold water on the growing public discontent with the dismal performance of the administration.

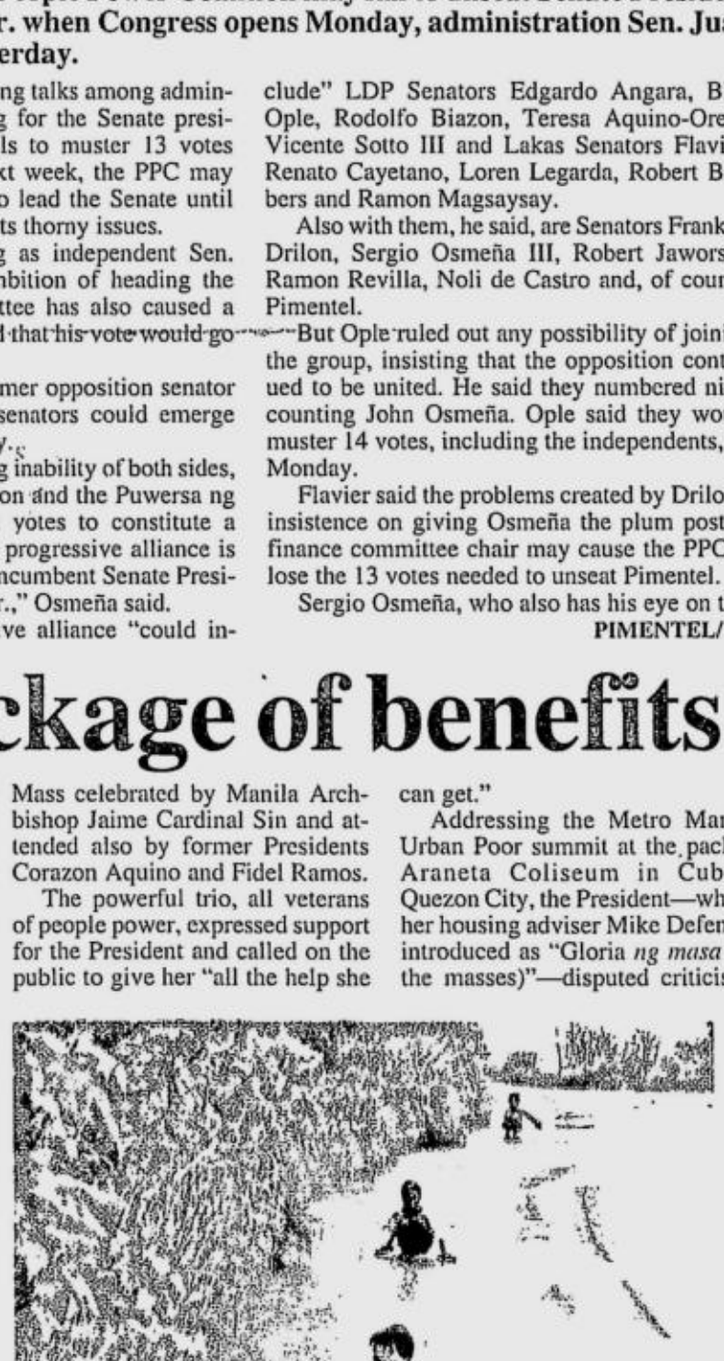
Corpuz described the cuts in oil prices as peanuts. "Oil companies should have reduced their prices by not less than P2 per liter," he said.

"Instead of coddling the oil cartel, the government should exercise strong political will and the highest degree of patriotism to deliver a knockout punch against the oil cartel," he said.

"This will not affect the big rally as the President delivers her Sona. The people are ready to deliver the true state of the nation and will engage the administration in a major political showdown," Corpuz said.

Petron Corp., Caltex Philippines Inc. and other oil companies yes-

MILITANTS/ A15



ERNIE U.SARMIENTO

WASN'T IT FUN? Only for these kids in Balara, Quezon City on Thursday when flash floods as usual submerged many portions of Metro Manila, stranding commuters and paralyzing traffic for hours. *(Story on Page A4.)*

Ex-Palace official: Mike accepted bribes

BY MARTIN P. MARFIL AND ABIGAIL L. HO

A FORMER Malacañang secretary yesterday accused the President's husband, Mike Arroyo, of accepting bribes in exchange for the promised recall of a vetoed bill granting a telecommunications franchise, and then of using her as a scapegoat when the veto was not lifted.

Bing Rodrigo, President Macapagal-Arroyo's former appointments secretary, made the charge during a radio interview yesterday morning.

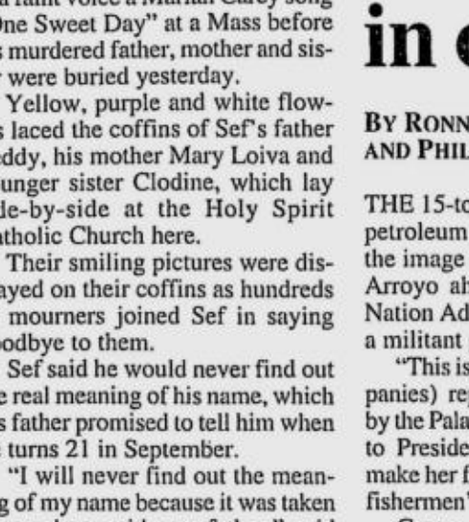
Rodrigo, the daughter of former Sen. Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, told dzMM radio that she resigned from the Palace after learning that she was being blamed for the deal going sour.

Rodrigo was Ms Macapagal's classmate throughout grade school and high school, and their parents, both political foes of the late Ferdinand Marcos, were close.

For these reasons, Rodrigo said, she was asked to take on the post of appointments secretary when Ms Macapagal took over the presidency.

"I resigned when I learned that I was being made a scapegoat for that telecommunications franchise deal. I learned those involved in the deal were Mike Arroyo and three others. Two of them are still working at the Palace while the third is a business partner of Mike Arroyo," Rodrigo said, speaking in Filipino.

EX-PALACE/ A15



Chinese learn English for 2008 Olympics

BEIJING—Twenty thousand civil servants in Beijing have started English classes in order to be better equipped to communicate with the huge numbers of foreign visitors expected for the 2008 Olympics, officials said Friday.

Officials who have completed the 25-lesson course will be able to converse casually about the weather and pronounce simple greetings like "Good Morning" and

CHINESE/ A5

Second FRONT PAGE

No lawyers; Abu arraignment reset

BY JULIE ALIPALA-INOT
PDI Mindanao Bureau

ZAMBOANGA CITY--Yesterday's arraignment of 45 suspected Abu Sayyaf members and supporters, including the brother of Abu Sayyaf leader Khadaffy Janjalani, was postponed after more than half of the accused showed up without lawyers.

Judge Jesus Carbon ordered the local bar council to provide lawyers for the defendants and reset their arraignment to Aug. 22 after the court also found that some of them had not gone through a full preliminary investigation.

The accused face charges of kidnapping, illegal weapons possession and drug-related offenses.

The brief court proceeding turned out to be anti-climactic after the hours of extensive security preparations by police when they transported Hector Janjalani, brother of Khadaffy, from a Manila jail to this city to be arraigned in the kidnapping of American Jeffrey Schilling and others.

Janjalani was arrested in a Manila shopping mall last year while trying to sell a video of Schilling in captivity to local and international news networks.

The handcuffed Janjalani arrived on a commercial flight and was taken to the court in an armored personnel carrier.

Wearing a yellow prison t-shirt, the subdued Janjalani complained: "This is what always happens when you are a Muslim--they step on your rights."

He said he was innocent and was only being charged because he is the brother of Abu Sayyaf leaders, including the group's late founder Abdurajak Janjalani.

Hector then requested that he be held in Zamboanga City for the subsequent hearings rather than be flown back to Manila and the court granted his request.

Police had asked that his arraignment be held in Manila for security reasons but this was rejected by the courts.

Hector arrived here from Camp Crame yesterday morning. At the Zamboanga International Airport, he was guarded by about 200 members of the Zamboanga City police and Task Force Zamboanga.

From the airport, he was whisked in an armored personnel carrier to the Zamboanga City Police Office to await the opening of the Hall of Justice.

Senior Supt. Leopoldo Marante, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology regional director, said there will be no solitary confinement for Janjalani.

"In the first place, he is a suspect, not a convict. The Constitution ensures that his rights are protected and he has been cooperating with us," Marante told the INQUIRER.

He also said Janjalani would not be allowed to meet with his 44 co-accused who were arrested here and in Basilan.

The suspects were identified as Basoan Pael, Dini Acob, Jack Abdurahim, Mustafa Amil, Abu Muslim, Divino Buenbrazo, Hadji Ahmad Upao, Pepito Buenbrazo, Jamasali Baha, Muktal Ahalul, Karim Kiram Hassan, Jacob Hatain Ayub, Mukim Hataman Limbung, Ping Chiong Tan;

Rabitchie Tumanggong, Sadat Abdulgani Hussin, Marvin Fernandez Hamizon, Marvin Uyag Hassim, Bobby Abdulajid Alonto, Sedkie Karam Abdurasid, Abdulgafar Hadji Yusup, Embrahim Hani Joe, Sajid Asaha, Abdulmoner Hasim Saliddin, Hadji Mohammad Isa Palaw Ahmad, Badran Abdulhamid, Anwar Abdule Hami;

Munib Albani Majid, Masser Lim Omar, Romy Hairal, Gaafar Mundi, SPO1 John Ali, Munap Abdul Saliddin, Hadji Abdulgani Abbas, Osin Abducarim, Sirad Antonio, Ibno Hasser Hagasi, Nimrod Kallong, Iklaman Abdusalam Taligon, Jalil Samsawi, Otoh Hapikin and two John Does.

Even as the legal preparations were going on, police and military pressed on with their crackdown against Abu Sayyaf supporters and sympathizers in Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi and Zamboanga.

Police sources said a key Abu Sayyaf ally had been arrested in Basilan but would not give details.

Shortly before dawn, police raided a hotel in Zamboanga to arrest a Basilan town mayor, Dorie Kalahal, on suspected Abu Sayyaf links.

Kalahal, mayor of the Abu Sayyaf stronghold of Tuburan, escaped arrest after local officials intervened to end a standoff between the police and his armed security guards.

In Isabela City, two Basilan provincial government employees were reportedly arrested yesterday morning.

Adam Musa, spokesperson for the families of those arrested, identified them as Mohammad Abdulla, a provincial government employee, and Halim Asali Jahama, an assistant provincial budget officer.

Musa said Abdulla went to the Basilan provincial police office to clear his name but was arrested instead.

Jahama was picked up at his residence in Barangay Aguada.

Maj. Alberto Gepilano, Joint Task Force Comet civil military operations officer, said eight Abu Sayyaf members surrendered to Mayor Tambrin Tulawie of Talipao, Sulu.

He also confirmed the arrest of Isset Imam Yusop, alias Isap Abbas, and Ibnorashid Balahim Aiyub, who were nabbed near the Isabela Wharf.

Tabuk Barangay chair Abdulgani Abbas, one of those accused with Janjalani, claimed that after his arrest in Basilan, he was tortured by his military interrogators.

"Bawat isang tanong, tatlong suntok sa dibdib ko, pakiramdam ko puputok ang dibdib ko sa sakit (With every question, I was punched three times in the chest. My chest felt like it was going to explode with the pain)," Abbas told the INQUIRER.

Mayor Maria Clara Lobregat said she has filed a petition before the Supreme Court seeking the transfer of the hearings to another location.

Lobregat said the presence of the suspects in the city was creating a security problem, inviting attacks from the Abu Sayyaf. *With Jonathan Ma, PDI Mindanao Bureau, AFP and AP reports*

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Gov't-rebel talks set next week

KUALA LUMPUR—Malaysia will host talks next week between the Philippine government and a separatist rebel group, the state-run Bernama news agency reported on Friday.

A call for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front's (MILF) 12,000 fighters to lay down their firearms will top the agenda when the two sides meet next Tuesday for the second round of talks following a meeting in Libya last month.

But MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu said the rebels, who have fought for 23 years to create an independent Islamic state in Mindanao, will hold on to their guns until there is a "permanent, lasting and acceptable solution."

Kabalu said the MILF would press for the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) to help implement a ceasefire which was agreed in Tripoli.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's government is offering an amnesty and monetary help to rebels who hand in their guns, but Kabalu said the MILF would not be rushed into any settlement. *Reuters*

HECTOR Janjalani steps out of a V-150 armored vehicle which police used to transport him to the courthouse in Zamboanga City for his arraignment. Suspected Abu Sayyaf members and supporters wait inside the courtroom for their arraignment on charges of kidnapping. DENNIS SABANGAN

Gov't welcomes MNLF raps over raid on Nur's compound

BY ANTHONY ALLADA AND JONATHAN MA
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY---The government welcomed yesterday the filing of criminal charges by the Moro National Liberation Front against the law enforcers who raided the residential compound of MNLF chair Nur Misuari in Zamboanga City at dawn last Thursday.

Misuari is also governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Interior Secretary Joey Lina said the MNLF has every right to file criminal charges if it feels that rights violations were committed by the raiding team.

Lina, who was here to keynote the First Davao City Business Community conference sponsored by the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc., insisted, however, that the raid was legitimate since it was covered by a search warrant issued by Judge Jesus Carbon. The object of the warrant was Misuari's caretaker Asah Asmawil.

"The MNLF should bear in mind that it was not Misuari who was the subject of the raid but Asmawil, so there is no need to argue about Misuari here," Lina said.

He said it was coincidental that the operation was conducted at the ARMM governor's compound. The raid yielded ammunition for high-powered firearms.

In Manila, Senate president pro tempore Blas Ople asked the government to go slow in its operations against suspected gunrunners allegedly linked to Misuari.

Ople said he was filing a resolution calling for a probe of alleged rights abuses committed by the police and the military against suspected Abu Sayyaf members and sympathizers.

Ople said he wants the Senate blue ribbon and defense and security committees to hold hearings in Basilan and Sulu.

He warned of "dire consequences" if the government continued to give the impression that it was "persecuting" Misuari in its efforts to bring peace and development to Muslim areas in Mindanao.

He recalled that Misuari had threatened to resume the MNLF's war with the government if the latter continued to persecute him.

In Zamboanga City, DILG Undersecretary Abraham Iribani asked the Southern Command to conduct a separate investigation into the raid on Misuari's compound.

Iribani, a special assistant to Lina, met yesterday with Southern Command chief Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling. Iribani used to be a lawyer for the MNLF.

Southcom spokesperson Lt. Col. Danilo Servando said the military has started a separate investigation of the incident.

The raid drew the ire of members of the MNLF and officials of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development (SPCPD) who said the incident was a violation of the 1996 peace agreement entered into by the government and the MNLF. *With Armand Nocum*

Gunrunners make a killing in Basilan

BY CARLITO PABLO

WITH a mini-war going on in the South, gunrunners are believed to be making a killing at the black market for firearms and ammunition.

Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Jose Mabanta Jr. said illicit ammunition alone fetches two to three times their usual price. "Illegal dealers are known to sell these ammunition up to 200 to 300 percent higher than government prices," Mabanta said.

The government arsenal, which is under the Department of National Defense, manufactures most of the ammunition requirements of both the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police.

The AFP and PNP buy these ammunition from the government arsenal whose plant is located in Limay, Bataan.

A review of the government price list shows the following:

- One round for the M-16 rifle, the most commonly used rifle in the country, costs P9.97 a piece.
- One round for the M-14 rifle, a favorite infantry weapon, costs P13.88.
- The grenade used for launchers attached to the M-16 rifle costs P871.50 a piece.
- One round for the .45 cal. pistol, P10.65; 9mm pistol, P14; and .38 cal. pistol, P3.88.

Military spokesperson Brig. Gen. Edilberto Adan said that some ammunition in the hands of Moro rebels and armed bands, particularly the Abu Sayyaf, may have been supplied by Muslims in the military or police services.

"There could be military and police personnel who are sympathetic with these rebels," Adan said. "It's because they might be relatives or on account of them having the same religion."

"As we all know, blood is thicker than water," Adan added.

Adan conceded that the pilferage of both government issued firearms and ammunition has been going on for a long time.

"Our counter-intelligence units have the job of pinpointing parties who are responsible for this illicit trade so appropriate charges can be filed and disciplinary actions carried out against them," Adan said.

The other day, police raided a Zamboanga City compound owned by Gov. Nur Misuari of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and seized hundreds of ammunition.

These included 60 pieces of grenades used in M-79 launchers, 600 rounds of M-14 bullets and 200 bullets for M-16s.

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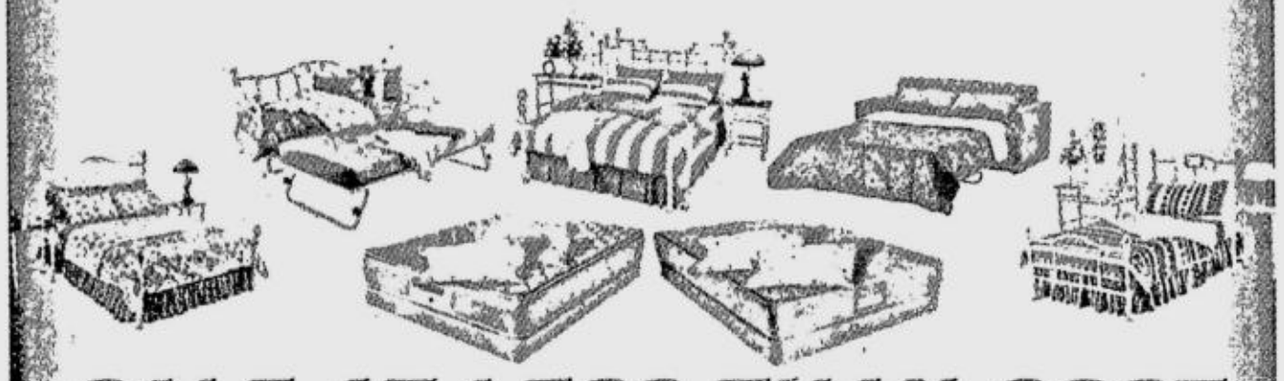
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Gloria says daughter Luli victim of sexual harassment

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo, who says her daughter Luli was a victim of sexual harassment, yesterday approved new rules on handling and punishing offenders in government agencies.

"I give fair warning to all harassers and would-be harassers to cease and desist from their evil ways," she said. "Direct your desires and energies elsewhere. We do not need your kind. You are clearly out of place in the civil service or anywhere else."

The "Administrative Disciplinary Rules," crafted by the Civil Service Commission, harmonized provisions of a 1995 law on sexual harassment and civil service policies after a survey showed very few agencies have promulgated their own rules as required by the law.

Under the new rules, the head of a government office has 15 days to act on a sexual harassment complaint or face charges of neglect of duty. A committee on decorum and investigation, with management and employee representatives, has 30 days to decide cases. A first offender for a "grave" offense would be immediately dismissed.

The new rules also specify that an offender could be a low-ranking officer or employee who victimizes a superior, male or female. The offender's accomplices also would be held liable. Sending sexually offensive e-mails or cellular telephone messages or "clearly embarrassing, offensive or vulgar jokes" is considered an offense.

Sexual harassment has persisted because the process of getting redress was "convoluted and shaded with gray areas" and the definition of the offense was unclear, the President said.

"We will begin to clarify borderline areas and plug loopholes," she said.

LULI Arroyo: "Harasser" now posted abroad

The President appealed to victims to come forward.

"Remember, the shame should be on the harasser, not on the victims," she said, referring to sexual harassers as "social garbage."

Ms Macapagal also said sexual harassment has been "trivialized because of socio-cultural factors such as the macho culture and gender stereotypes, including the false superiority of men over women."

She said there have been many cases where office heads discouraged or even threatened victims from speaking up, citing the case of daughter Luli, who she said was sexually harassed while working as a consultant for the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1996, when Ms Macapagal was a senator.

"She was a victim of sexual harassment and there was a lot of pressure for her to drop her case, and she was already the daughter of a senator," the President said, without giving details.

INQUIRER sources said Luli's "harasser" was now posted abroad.

Luli is the same daughter whose appointment papers as a foreign service officer Ms Macapagal did not sign early in her presidency to avoid being criticized for nepotism. *AP with a report from Juliet Labog-Javellana*

Former US vice president in town

FORMER US Vice President Dan Quayle, on a business trip to the Philippines, was scheduled to meet with President Macapagal last night, officials said.

Arroyo later was to host a dinner for Quayle at the Malacañang presidential palace, said presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao.

Quayle, senior adviser of Cerberus Asia Capital Management, arrived in Manila Thursday on a private business trip, said US Embassy spokesperson Frank Jenista.

"It's private and he is no longer a government employee, so we are not involved directly in handling the visit," Jenista said.

The Cerberus Group is one of the world's largest companies involved in corporate restructuring.

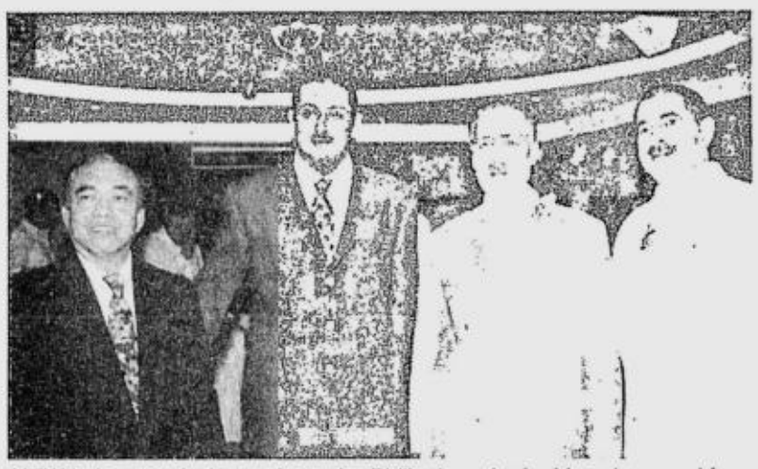
Quayle, vice chairman of the Denver-based investment bank, J.S. Ford and Co., last week joined sports equipment maker K2's board of directors to help crack the Asian market.

Officials did not give details of Quayle's business trip or the subject of his talks with Arroyo.

Quayle visited the Philippines as vice president in September 1989 to urge Philippine officials to support the retention of US bases here. The Philippine Senate, however, voted two years later not to renew the lease.

His visit was marred by the killing of two American civilians working at a US Air Force communications facility north of Manila by suspected communist guerrillas.

In an autobiography, Quayle recounted how he helped quell a coup in December 1989 against then-President Corazon Aquino, while US President George Bush was flying to Malta for a summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. *AP*



NEW Lebanese Ambassador to the Philippines Jaafar Moawi, second from right, presented his credentials to President Macapagal-Arroyo last Tuesday. On Monday, he was feted at a cocktail reception hosted by the Consulate of Lebanon in Manila. He is shown with, from left, Philippine Ambassador to Lebanon Fortunato Oblena, Abdullah El-Mutairi, second secretary of the Embassy of Saudi Arabia, and Joseph Assad, Lebanese vice consul in Manila.

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'Rosebud' sent to US to find Ping hoard–Perez

BY CATHY C. YAMSUAN

FORMER police asset Mary Ong, also known as Rosebud, is now in the United States helping American investigators locate a purported multimillion-dollar account maintained by Sen. Panfilo Lacson in the country.

This was confirmed by Justice Secretary Hernando Perez at a news conference yesterday.

"Rosebud is now in the US. We confirm that she is in the US. She is trying to help in coordinating the efforts of the Philippine government and the (National Bureau of Investigation)," Perez said.

"I understand that she has been sent by the (Philippine National Police), or the (intelligence group) under Colonel Berroya at that time," he added.

Perez apparently meant that Ong was sent to the US by Berroya while the Lacson nemesis was still head of the PNP intelligence group. Berroya was recently taken off the office and appointed PNP regional commander for Central Luzon.

Perez said allegations had been raised about Lacson keeping $500 million in a US bank.

Perez refused to provide details about Ong's trip. But he said that the US government, particularly the Federal Bureau of Investigation, had not yet responded to queries made by the Philippine government on the matter.

Perez said Lacson could be charged with plunder if it was proven that he really had a multimillion-dollar account in the US.

Floods leave thousands stranded in Metro streets

BY MARTIN MARFIL

A MIDNIGHT presidential call brought Metro Manila Development Authority chair Benjamin Abalos out into the streets late Thursday to deal with the flash floods spawned by monsoon rains that stranded thousands of commuters and caused traffic jams that extended well into the next day.

Abalos was given six months to come up with a solution to the traffic problem.

"I called up Ben Abalos in the middle of the night, I said 'Ben, everybody is stranded'," the President said.

She noted that the traffic was so bad some participants in the events she attended yesterday could not make it.

The phenomenon merely underscored the need to address the flood and traffic problems in the metropolis, she said.

The long-term solution, however, was to install more mass transport systems and decongest Metro Manila, she said.

The decongestion could be achieved if businesses and people were dispersed and investors are attracted to trade hubs in Subic, Clark and the Calabarzon industrial zones.

In the short run, she said there was need for more efficient traffic management and this was the responsibility of the MMDA.

"Within six months, (Abalos) has to come up with a program to alleviate this traffic situation . . ." she said.

Flash floods on Thursday night submerged many barangays in deep floodwaters, paralyzing traffic and stranding thousands of commuters.

Barangay Baritan, Catmon, Ibaba, Longos, San Agustin, Taniong and Tinajeros in Malabon were knee-deep in floodwaters after the heavy rains.

Two tricycle drivers went missing after strong currents dragged them during the heavy rains on Thursday night in northern Manila.

Police identified only one of the two missing tricycle drivers—Rolando Arcangel, 24, of Phase 2, Senate Village, Barangay 173 in Caloocan City.

Police said Arcangel had gone to the rescue another driver whose tricycle got stuck in a heavily flooded bridge that he was trying to cross at about 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, police said.

While both men were pulling at the tricycle, strong currents swept them into the river.

In Valenzuela, the flooded barangays were Wawang Pulo, Balangkas, Parancillo Villa, Bisig, Tagalang, Coloong, Malanday, Isla and Pulo.

But even though floodwaters nearly rose to waist level, no families had to be evacuated.

In Navotas, all 14 barangays went under knee-deep water.

Opposition Sen. Blas Ople yesterday said the President should devote her State of the Nation Address (Sona) to resolving the worsening problems of flash floods and uncollected garbage in Metro Manila.

In a press briefing, Ople also asked the President to "dismiss high-ranking" Department of Public Works and Highways officials for failing to prevent floods.

"If we can solve the problem of collecting and processing garbage in Metro Manila and end the never-ending headache of widespread flash floods, we can solve any problem in the nation," said the Senate president pro tempore of the 11th Congress.

The twin problems, he said, symbolized the helplessness of the national and local governments in addressing chronic difficulties.

Ople said the President should also fire and censure MMDA officials and local mayors for failing to address the problem.

He said the police should start arresting citizens and business owners who habitually throw their trash on sidewalks and streets.

Ople said "floods and uncollected garbage abound because there is a widespread shortage of discipline."

In a press statement, Sen. Ralph Recto asked the government to reconsider its plan to freeze P10 billion worth of flood-control projects next year to keep the deficit within P120 billion.

"If flood control activities will be put on the chopping block, it would set back the timetable to liberate one-fifth of Metro Manila's land area from seasonal flooding," he warned. *With reports from Christian Esguerra and Armand Nocum*

Military, police placed on alert for 'Sona'

BY CARLITO PABLO

AUTHORITIES have place police and military forces on heightened alert to face down any civil disturbances that may erupt during President Macapagal-Arroyo's first State of the Nation Address (Sona) on Monday.

The Philippine National Police have enlisted forces from its units in Ilocos, Central Luzon and Southern Tagalog to beef up the civil disturbance management units of the National Capitol Regional Police Office.

At least 3,000 policemen would be deployed to maintain peace and order on Monday, officials said.

The PNP expects about 20,000 protesters from competing militant group to stage marches and other mass actions on Monday.

For its part, the Armed Forces of the Philippines said it was prepared to reinforce PNP forces should the situation call for it.

"We have sufficient forces here in Metro Manila," said AFP spokesperson Brig Gen. Edilberto Adan. "We also have units outside NCR which we can call in at a moment's notice if need be."

Adan dodged reporters' questions about whether the military knew of serious threats of destabilization directed at the Macapagal administration. But Adan assured the public: "We are prepared to deal with any eventuality."

The former military rebel group Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa disclosed it had not received any report of serious attempts to destabilize the government.

"We met recently with our members who are in the active (military) service and they said they heard nothing and that nobody's trying to recruit them," said RAM spokesperson Col. Reynaldo Samaco.

The President's husband Miguel Arroyo earlier said that an unnamed general had told Malacañang deposed president Joseph Estrada had attempted to entice him to participate in a plan to unseat Ms Macapagal.

The general, according to Mr. Arroyo, was supposedly summoned by Estrada to the Veterans Memorial Medical Center where the former leader was being held.

The AFP has not disbanded its anti-coup unit, Task Force Libra, which played a major role in protecting the *administration during the "Edsa III" riots of forces loyal to Estrada.

JDV hosts victory party at Dasma home

BY ROCKY NAZARENO

BRIDGING the gaps in age and party affiliation, Pangasinan Rep. Jose de Venecia hosted a fellowship party on Thursday night for incoming representatives of the 12th Congress that also became a victory blowout for himself as he is expected to assume the House speakership on Monday.

President Macapagal-Arroyo attended the gathering at De Venecia's Dasmariñas Village residence, where the incoming Speaker hailed "a newfound unity and cohesion (in the House) that could propel the country out of its political and economic troubles."

"I feel like I am 20 years younger," said De Venecia as he wined and danced with the younger House members who transformed what was an otherwise somber celebration into a dancing party.

"This is the first time we've seen (De Venecia) him dance like that here," said Melinda from De Venecia's staff.

The Lakas-NUCD official had more than enough reason to feel upbeat.

De Venecia was virtually assured of getting the speakership on Thursday after his main challenger, Liberal Party Rep. Florencio Abad (Batanes), withdrew, ensuring that the pro-administration People Power Coalition would remain intact in the Lower House.

The Pangasinan solon said he took Abad's withdrawal as his "cue to start working to get the country going again."

"For a change, you would have good news to write about," De Venecia told the INQUIRER. "And that will be about a unified House."

Significantly, De Venecia led the congressmen, even those not belonging to the PPC, in singing a Filipino song about unity and achievement, "Haharapin Natin."

Nationalist People's Coalition leader Gilbert Teodoro extolled the kind of teamwork that the 12th Congress is expected to show.

"A lot of people of the same age transcend political affiliation just to get things done," said Teodoro, who brought with him some 40 NPC congressmen to bolster De Venecia's bid for a third stint as Speaker.

Teodoro added that the coalition that De Venecia has forged in Congress was a "breakthrough because there is now a common desire to really help our nation."

"No parties, but the agenda is only to push the country ahead," he said. "It's up to the Speaker to ride on this momentum."

Teodoro added that the NPC, which was previously allied with the camp of jailed ex-president Joseph Estrada, found the PPC's economic reform agenda "akin to what (the) NPC stands for."

Even the controversial Manila Rep. Mark Jimenez, who is facing extradition to the United States, was feeling his way around his new colleagues.

"I find that there is no discrimination going on. (In the 12th Congress), there will be no age discrimination in governance," Jimenez said.

PLEASED as punch, President Macapagal-Arroyo beams during Mass at the Edsa Shrine with former leaders Fidel Ramos and Corazon Aquino, then (below) views the story of her rise to power in a relief of Edsa Dos by Nemy Miranda.

JOAN BONDOC

Party-list winners hit Comelec inaction

BY GERALD LACUARTA

WINNING party-list groups yesterday decried the "sluggishness" and "lack of backbone" of the Commission on Elections in waiting until July 30, or one week after the opening of the 12th Congress and the election of the speaker of the House, to proclaim them.

"It appears the Comelec is taking its own sweet time in implementing the Supreme Court order (to study the qualifications of party-list groups) with the announcement of Chairman Alfredo Benipayo that the winners will be proclaimed on July 30," said Akbayan representative Etta Rosales.

Crispin Beltran, chair of Kilusang Mayo Uno and one of the three winning representatives of Bayan Muna, accused Benipayo of deliberately keeping party-list groups from occupying their seats in Congress, "perhaps upon the orders of certain political interests."

A majority of winning party-list representatives, particularly those from the progressive bloc, were expected to vote for Batanes Rep. Florencio "Butch" Abad of the Liberal Party for speaker over Rep. Jose de Venecia (Lakas, Pangasinan). Abad has since withdrawn from the speakership contest, however.

Rosales, who went to see Benipayo yesterday, said the deferment of the proclamation was "extremely unfair and violated the right" of the winning party-list groups to participate in the opening of Congress and the election of a speaker.

"This is a violation of the right of representation and our right to vote in the internal organization of the House, which are essential attributes of our representative democracy," she said.

The Supreme Court, in a 43-page ruling issued June 26, ordered the Comelec to hold summary evidentiary hearings to determine the qualifications of all 162 party-list groups and submit a compliance report within 30 days.

Since the Comelec received a copy of the ruling on June 29, it has until July 29 to submit its compliance report.

The SC said that until the compliance report was completed, its order restraining the poll body from proclaiming any party-list winners remained in effect.

The Comelec started to hold the evidentiary hearings only on July 9, or nine days after it received a copy of the SC decision.

Commissioner Rex Borra on Thursday said the Comelec would try to complete the compliance report by today, but stressed that they had until July 29 to do so as ordered by the SC.

"Benipayo's sluggishness and lack of backbone is what's keeping the rightful winners in the party-list elections from being proclaimed," Beltran said.

As of the latest Comelec report on July 4, only 10 party-list groups have been able to meet the minimum requirement of two percent of the total party-list votes to win a seat in the House.

In all, 15 party-list representatives may be able to sit in Congress if none of the 10 winning groups is disqualified by the Comelec.

Eduardo Romualdez, ex-envoy to US, dies

EDUARDO Z. Romualdez, former ambassador to the United States and Marcos-era finance secretary, died Thursday evening in his sleep. He would have been 92 in November.

He is survived by his 90-year-old wife, Concepcion, and children Norma Nierras, Antonio and Jose.

The body lies in state at the mortuary of the Sanctuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati City.

Burial will be on Tuesday, July 24, after the 8.30 a.m. mass, at the family plot in La Loma Cemetery.

A first cousin of former first lady Imelda Romualdez-Marcos, Romualdez joined the Ferdinand Marcos government as finance secretary and ambassador to Washington.

During the Magsaysay administration, he was chairman of the Rehabilitation Finance Company which later became the Development Bank of the Philippines.

He retired in 1986 as chairman of Philippine Airlines.

Imports cracking cement industry; officials run to gov't for help

BY GIL CABACUNGAN

FEARFUL of the imminent collapse of the domestic cement industry, some representatives and local government officials are urging the government to impose a provisional 50-percent duty on cement imports for at least 200 days.

In a press conference yesterday, several lawmakers, governors, mayors and city councilors warned that the influx of cheap imports has dealt a blow to the industry which could leave thousands of their constituents jobless and force some of them to resort to lawlessness.

The trade and industry department is now reviewing a move by the Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corp. to block the entry of imports from Taiwan Cement under the safeguard measures.

If the department upholds the Philcemcor petition, the provisional measure will be in effect until a final decision is made on the matter.

The officials claimed that the closure of cement factories, particularly in Mindanao, would force those losing their jobs to join criminal groups like the Kuratong Baleleng and the Abu Sayyaf.

"Poverty is the best recruiter of rebels because bandits prey on the citizens' hopelessness to attain economic progress," they said in a letter to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Cement plants are the lifeblood of some local governments' economies. They provide many jobs and contribute a large chunk to the local government units' tax collections. For instance, Iligan City collects P100 million in taxes from cement alone.

The country's cement plants are located in Bacnotan, La Union; Sison, Pangasinan; Norzagaray and San Ildefonso, Bulacan; Tanay, Antipolo City, and Teresa in Rizal province; Taysan, Batangas; Naga, San Fernando and Danao City in Cebu; Kiwalan, Iligan City; and Lugait, Misamis Oriental; Surigao City, Surigao del Sur; and Ilang, Davao City.

Iligan City Mayor Franklin Quijano said the government should act now before it is too late to save the cement industry from going the way of the tire and steel industry which have been forced to shut down because of competition from imports.

He said the cement industry was taking much the same path as the tire and steel industry, which, after imports snuffed out competition, traders jacked up prices significantly compared to the period when there was still local competition.

He said the steady rise of cement imports have already led to the closure of some cement plants and the downsizing of those factories that are still in operation.

But consumer advocacy groups led by the Consumers Union of the Philippines have claimed that domestic cement manufacturers were earning windfall profits last year despite a three-fold increase in imports.

In a statement, Cup said domestic cement manufacturers were losing money not because of imports but because of high financing charges.

Citing the financial statements submitted by the Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corp., Cup noted that cement manufacturers posted a P1.654 billion operating profit in the first 9 months in 2000 compared to the P3.157 billion and P390.5 million losses in 1999 and 1998, respectively.

Cup said these operating profits were wiped out by the manufacturers' interest expenses that ballooned to P4.8 billion as of September 2000, from P2.2 billion and P916.5 million in 1999 and 1998, respectively.

Quijano said the issue was not just a simple choice between saving jobs or keeping consum-

Gloria's saving grace is Erap conviction, teachers declare

BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA

ONLY the conviction of Joseph Estrada will prove that the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo did not ultimately fail the sectors that put it in power six months ago.

This was the assessment aired yesterday by the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT), which gave the President a "grade" of 74 in history "for forgetting the lessons of Edsa I and II, particularly what happens to a president alienated from the people."

The ACT, which represents around 100,000 public school teachers nationwide, said Ms Macapagal was like "a recalcitrant student unwilling to master the lessons necessary for becoming a good president."

ACT deputy secretary general Raymund Villanueva said the prosecution of Estrada, his son Jinggoy and their associates would provide the saving factor for the administration.

Villanueva said the only remaining basis for the tactical alliance of militant groups with the administration was the prosecution of the Estradas.

He said the President's condoning of a luxurious lifestyle in detention for the Estradas, as well as her visits to her disgraced predecessor had made dents in that alliance.

"If Estrada is convicted, the President will be okay with us. We can work on the other factors later," Villanueva said at a press conference where the ACT presented a mock report card showing the President's "dismal grades."

He said the 74 rating was not a conviction of the President's policies but a challenge that should encourage the administration to do better.

But 200 young activists who held a rally at the Don Chino Roces (formerly Mendiola) near Malacañang yesterday afternoon gave the President grades of "4" and "under strict probation."

The rally was organized by the Akbayan Youth, Bisig Youth, Student Council Alliance of the Philippines and Movement for the Advancement of Student Power.

The activists denounced the administration for "explicit(ly) ignoring the demands of the youth," and the President for supposedly failing to provide "any assurance that she will further uphold and protect the welfare and interest of the youth."

Ms Macapagal will deliver her first State of the Nation Address on Monday. Various groups have announced plans to hold mass actions demanding payback for the gains of Edsa II. *With a report from Jerome Aning*

AT THE sound of the bell, President Macapagal launches the Small and Medium Enterprises Board at the Philippine Stock Exchange on Friday. At left is Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho; at right is Felipe Yap, PSE chair. JOAN BONDOC

GMA unveils package of benefits for poor

(From page A1)

"I'm not merely being cute when I visit your homes," the President, dressed in a pale green suit, said in Filipino. "We've been working hard to achieve unity with you. And I don't get tired of visiting you. I enjoy it very much."

She narrated how, when she visited an urban poor community (at the Smokey Mountain in Tondo), she was greeted with extreme scorn: "*Ang kapal ng mukha mo, pumunta ka pa dito.*"

But when she returned to the same place after several months, she said, she was greeted warmly: "Hi, Ate Glo! *Kumusta ka? Maraming salamat*!"

She said the drastic change in reception was brought about by the promises that she had fulfilled in her first six months.

The President also made a pitch for labor, urging businessmen and employers to immediately grant emergency allowances to workers to help them cope with rising prices and economic difficulties.

"Many workers are already on the edge of poverty. A further drop in their purchasing power will surely entail additional hardships," she said in her press conference later in Malacañang.

Housing

In her speech, which she later described as her "dress rehearsal" for her State of the Nation Address on Monday, Ms Macapagal:

- Announced a P20-billion budget for mass housing (P3 billion from the Social Security System; P6 billion, the Government Service Insurance System; P11 billion, Pagibig).
- Proclaimed six areas in Metro Manila covering 222,060 square meters as settlement sites for 14,245 families.
- Set a target of 150,000 housing units yearly (100,000 for workers and 50,000 for squatters).

She also said she would ask Congress to create a Department of Housing focused on building houses for the poor; cut prices of medicines for the poor by half; direct the National Food Authority to deploy 1,000 rolling stores to sell rice for P14 a kilo; keep transport fares down; and ease traffic in Metro Manila in six months.

She asked the Metro Manila Development Authority to solve the garbage problem in Metro Manila within one year and said half a million families would be able to seek insurance coverage in Philhealth this year.

She elaborated on most of these points at her press conference later in Malacañang.

The President basked in the gratitude of the 14,245 families who stand to benefit from her declaration as settlement sites the Parola Estate in Manila; the Balabag-Merville in Paranaque City; and the Don Carlos land, Maribacan III, Barrio Pilipino Putol and Barangay Merville, all in Pasay City.

She was thrilled by a streamer that read: "*Ang dali palang matupad ang pangarap kapag si Ate Glo ang kausap* (How easy it is to realize a dream if it's Ate Glo in charge)."

Urban poor leader Ramon de Leon said the President would give "land for the landless, homes for the homeless and jobs for the jobless."

The President recalled her visits to parts of Metro Manila and the countryside, where, she said, she found additional government land that could be used as housing for the poor.

She cited her visit to the Baseco compound in Tondo where nobody could say who owned the land. Right there and then, she said, she made a series of phone calls until she traced the landowner.

The President also said she was able to convince Justice Secretary Hernando Perez to allow the use of 50 of the 400 hectares of the National Bilibid Prisons land for mass housing.

"I can work it out," she quoted Perez as saying.

Support

At the gathering commemorating "People Power II," Sin and ex-Presidents Aquino and Ramos called on the public to support Ms Macapagal as she tried to steer the country out of political and economic crises.

They assailed the opponents of her administration, including the bandit group Abu Sayyaf and allies of her ousted predecessor Joseph Estrada.

They said the rallies that culminated in the violent attack on Malacañang on May 1 were "full of hate" and were "a malicious manipulation" that set sectors of society against each other.

"Let us all work together and give the President all the help she can get. She needs it," Aquino said. "The President and certain government officials are working tirelessly to put in place new building blocks of reform."

Ramos, for his part, said: "The continuity of our revolution for economic, political and social reform must be intensified now so that it will endure."

He said the country's fight against poverty remained its most serious challenge.

Sin described the Abu Sayyaf's kidnapping-for-ransom activities as the nation's biggest scourge and appealed to Christians and Muslims to "work together to bring lasting peace to our land." *With a report from Agnes E. Donato*

PIMENTEL

Pimentel may yet stay on as Senate boss

(From page A1)

seat, is "very unhappy and is talking about moving to the other side," Flavier said in an interview.

"Because the finance panel was given to John O., Serge is kicking mad *(sumisipa)* and may even end up with the opposition," he said, adding that this would bring the PPC's number to 12. With John, he added, they could still have pulled together the necessary 13 votes.

Bitter fight

Flavier said that in their meeting with the President in her ancestral home in Forbes Park Thursday night, another problem emerged—the bitter fight between Senators Loren Legarda and Manny Villar for the post of Senate pro tempore.

He said Legarda, who was already promised the post, was "very adamant" about getting it. But Villar wants the post as a "former Speaker and the first House Speaker to be senator." Failing to get the post, Villar or Legarda may opt to abstain, leaving the PPC with 11 votes, Flavier said.

"And when we are 11, we are back to the situation where it will be a stalemate to the extent that we will have to retain Senate President Pimentel for a week or so while we are unraveling the problem," he said.

He said this possibility hangs on the assumption that Joker and Villar will not move to the opposition, which is also likely to get 11.

"So, if the 11 at the other side is not touched, none of us will have the numbers, ergo, (Pimentel) keeps the post in a holdover capacity," Flavier said.

But he admitted that opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara could still get the post if he has a "secret understanding with some senators."

He said the bartering continued and that the President, who presided over the meeting, had asked them to solve the matter by Friday.

We can't afford to be gloomy—Gloria

(From page A1)

because precisely when we have these external pressures on our economy, we must really draw into all the resources that we have in order to survive and hopefully even flourish."

She also said: "First, we cannot pretend that the world is in a boom economy. Argentina just crashed. The US and Japan, our main trading partners, are having difficulties, and so with the other Asian neighbors.''

To further calm investors' anxiety, the President visited the trading hall of the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) in Makati City at 11 a.m. after unveiling a sculpture of "Edsa Dos" and speaking before 14,000 urban poor at the Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City. (*See story on Page A1*)

Accompanied by Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho and PSE officials, she rang the bell signifying the launching of the Small and Medium Enterprise Board (SME Board) at the bourse.

The SME Board is a separate listing for small and medium enterprises with high-growth potentials to raise capital by selling their shares to the public.

To be listed in the SME Board, a company must have a minimum capitalization of P20 million and a maximum of P100 million, of which 25 percent must be subscribed and fully paid.

First to be listed in the SME Board was SQL Wizard Inc., a company put up by former executives of Oracle Philippines.

In his speech prior to the launching, PSE chair Felipe Yap said the bourse conceptualized the SME Board four years ago.

"This was intended to be an alternative investment market composed of companies which, while not belonging to the country's top corporations in terms of size, are experiencing or are on the verge of experiencing expansion and high-income growth, just like SQL Wizard," Yap said.

Intervention

In Malacañang, the President said intervention was resorted to when there was a "very stiff" drop in the value of the peso.

"The policy is to let market forces prevail, and even if the peso depreciates, as long as it depreciates fairly smoothly, it's really very hard to go against market forces. It's like fighting nature," she said when asked what steps the government was taking to prop up the peso.

"But when you have a disturbance like the Argentine event, you have to watch out for big increases that will be compounded by speculative attacks. And then the central bank comes in, and it is an independent body," she added.

The President said the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and Department of Finance were "working together.''

"There is . . . intervention when the changes are very stiff. But also there is the question of other things, (like) enforcing rules to minimize the speculation activities of the players in the markets, specifically the banks," she said.

She also said the government was pushing for legislation that would raise the fine for speculators from P30,000 to P300,000 per violation.

In a Reuters report, BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said the beleaguered peso would correct itself slowly. He said he hoped it would stabilize at 53 to the dollar.

The peso hit a six-month low of 54.335 to the dollar on Wednesday but recovered to close at 53.74. It appreciated further to close at 53.20 on Thursday.

Asked by dzRH radio if the peso was likely to stay at the 53 level, Buenaventura said: "I'm hoping it will remain stable. That is what the businessmen are looking for—that it becomes stable."

"Eventually it will correct itself, but it will be slow because the correction of other currencies . . . does not happen overnight. What we want to avoid is the nervousness."

False reports

Buenaventura said market anxiety was triggered by false reports that the country's budget deficit target had been raised to P180 billion from the original target of P145 billion.

This was compounded by fears that the country may be hit by possible contagion from Argentina's brewing financial crisis.

Buenaventura had said that from January to July 17, the peso had fallen by about 7.7 percent.

The BSP and the national government have agreed to take steps to counter the pressure on the peso.

These steps include intervention in the foreign exchange market, sticking to the P145-billion budget deficit target for 2001, accelerating the government's overseas borrowings to bring in dollars, and expand the BSP's non-deliverable forward facility.

Buenaventura said the BSP would be stricter in implementing its foreign exchange regulations and monitor banks' compliance more closely.

"We are reminding the banks that if we see that they are (buying dollars more than required) on purpose, we will not just put monetary fines on them, we might suspend them too," he said.

'Definite steps'

Philippine share prices fell 0.4 percent yesterday as investors waited for the President's State of the Nation Address (Sona) on how she plans to solve the country's security and economic woes.

"We need definite steps. No more motherhood statements," said Joey Roxas of Eagle Equities Inc.

The PSE composite index shed 5.51 points to 1,376.36.

Volume rose to 1.2 billion shares but value fell to P329 million compared to 838 million shares worth P625 million traded on Thursday.

"The market is still lower because sentiment is still weak. It will take some time before we can discount all the negative news," said Manny Cruz of Mark Securities Corp.

Brokers cited the volatile peso, the unresolved hostage crisis in Basilan, and the slowing economy.

Roxas said the index was likely to fall through the 1,370-point support level if the President fails to convince in her first Sona on Monday.

The Bank of the Philippine Islands shed 50 centavos to P68.50 and SM Prime Holdings Inc. gave up 10 centavos to P6.50.

The Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. gained P10 to P670 while Ayala Corp. lost 20 centavos to P6.40. *With reports from Reuters, AFP*

Chinese learn English for 2008 Olympics

(From page A1)

"Good Evening," said a spokesperson with the city's personnel bureau.

The graduates should also know enough English to help foreigners cope with the small hassles of Beijing life, like getting money from the bank or dealing with the city's ubiquitous traffic police, she said.

Municipal authorities want officials with bachelor's degrees and above to memorize at least 300 English sentences, while 100 sentences will be sufficient for those with lower degrees.

Beijing is only at the beginning of an ambitious program to raise language proficiency levels among its officials. There are almost 100,000 civil servants in the Chinese capital.

The International Olympic Committee's decision last week to award the 2008 Games to Beijing has set off a flurry of activity in the Chinese capital.

Beijing is three years into a massive effort, budgeted at $12 billion, to clean up the city's air and rid it of its reputation as one of the most polluted capitals in the world.

Overall, the Chinese capital plans to invest $34 billion for the Games, including $22 billion for infrastructure, according to the national bureau of statistics. *AFP*

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OPINION

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Founding Chairman

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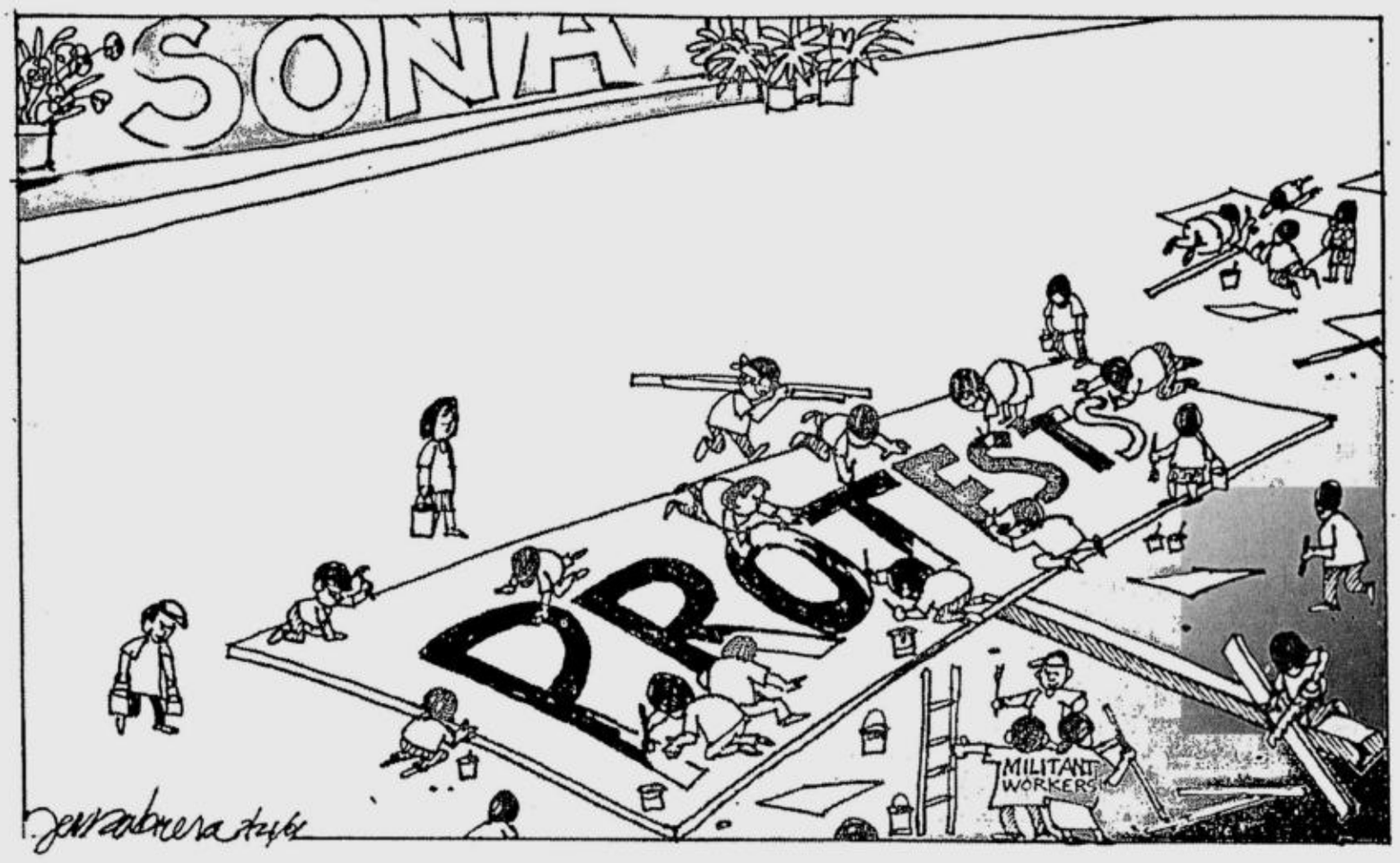


True to her creed

KATHARINE Graham, the former publisher of The Washington Post, died this week at the age of 84, from head injuries suffered after falling on a sidewalk while attending a conference of senior media executives. She passed away 10 years after retiring as chief executive officer of The Washington Post Co. and eight years as its chair. Retirement never stopped her from responding to the call of her vocation as a newspaper person. She died in the line of duty, so to speak.

EDITORIAL

Tributes have poured from international leaders and journalists all over the world to this extraordinary woman who built the Post into one of the most powerful newspapers in the United States, with an impact and influence extending beyond Washington. She was described as "the most powerful woman in the world," a description that is probably true but that embarrassed her. Journalists working in countries with a free press identified with and were inspired by her creed that may be summed in a few words: the independence of the press and the autonomy of editors.

She translated this creed into deeds in the Post's conflict with the Nixon administration. The first time was the publication of the Pentagon Papers in 1971, a secret history of the war in Vietnam; and the second was the Watergate scandal that led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon in 1974. These two episodes were the defining moments of the Post, which she developed through an inspired editorial leadership from a mediocre capital city newspaper into a world-class organ of public opinion.

In her 1997 Pulitzer Prize-winning autobiography, "Personal History," she wrote that she was guided by the principle that "journalistic excellence and profitability go hand in hand. I had to try to assure Wall Street that I wasn't some mad woman, interested only in risk and editorial issues, but that I was concerned with how we ran our business."

Put differently, this dictum means that good journalism is also good business. It has been translated into a success formula in the history of Philippine journalism and in other parts of the world with a free press.

But Graham had also a gift for choosing the right people. Her appointment of Warren Bufett as financial adviser and of Benjamin Bradlee as editor of the Post were inspired choices that helped translate her creed into action. She had chemistry with Bradlee who was admired by James Reston of the New York Times and the pundit Walter Lippmann.

Although she was an activist publisher who was always in the newsroom inquiring into newsbreaks, she also gave her editors autonomy, and Bradlee, who said she "had the guts of a burglar," rewarded her confidence. She said: "People literally do think that I am downstairs and tell them what to print and what not to print. I mean it's so crazy it's hard to answer. It isn't right for a publisher to tell an editor what to do or not to do. But it is certainly the publisher's responsibility to see that the paper is complete, accurate, fair and as excellent as possible."

This creed was put to a test in the Pentagon Papers episode when the Post published the documents in support of the New York Times, which had been barred from doing so by a court order. The issue was the constitutional right to publish against the government's right to protect secrets. Against lawyers' advice and threats to the paper's financial stability, she supported Bradlee's recommendation to publish. "Let's go. Let's publish," she told Bradlee. The Times and the Post won their case in the US Supreme Court in what is now a landmark decision on press freedom.

The other episode, the Watergate scandal, about the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters in Watergate, put the Post on a collision course with Nixon. The paper came under tremendous government pressure. The administration launched public and private attacks against the newspaper. Nixon filed challenges against the renewal of the licenses of the company's Florida TV, causing a 50-percent plunge in the price of Post stocks. Graham backed Bradlee and his reporters in pursuing the scandal that drove Nixon to resignation. In an editorial paying tribute to her, the Post wrote that such pressures could have caused many publications to rein in their newsroom, but she "never lost sight of the fact that high-quality journalism depended on running a newspaper that turned a profit." This policy allowed the company to expand, including the acquisition of Newsweek, and to deepen its financial base.

The eminence of the Post is a tribute to her creed which, in a more modest way, this paper tried to live up to during critical challenges to its independence.

A Constitution for all the people

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE GOVERNMENT has gone on what I might describe as a legal rampage in its campaign against the Abu Sayyaf. It has conducted "areal target zonings" or "saturation drives," established checkpoints, and made warrantless arrests of suspected outlaws in Basilan and nearby places supposed to be infested with members of the bandit group.

In justification of the military operations, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has assured the public that the justice department had secured warrants of arrest for the Abu Sayyaf leaders and their conspirators, "including the John Does." Secretary Hernando Perez should be quick to refute his boss and say he has not secured a single John Doe warrant nor would any court have issued the same.

A John Doe warrant is invalid on its face because it does not "specifically" describe the person to be arrested. It can be an instrument of oppression that may be served on any person who excites the ill will of the police officer. The exception is where, without naming him, the subject of the warrant is sufficiently described as, say, "the immediate past President of the Philippines." That could be no other than You-Know-Who.

President Macapagal is not a lawyer and needs all the best legal advice she can get, particularly from the secretary of justice as her top legal adviser. Her father was a bar topnotcher and could rely on his own reading of the Constitution (which, nevertheless, was not always correct). This is unfortunately not true of his daughter, whose forte is economics and not the Bill of Rights.

This is how a "zona" operates. In the dead of night or the early morning hours, soldiers and police surround an area, usually a depressed community, and rouse the residents by banging at their houses and commanding them to come out. They are made to line up, with the men being required to strip and reveal possible tattoos. A hooded informer then walks the line and all those he points to are arrested without warrant and hauled off to the military or police headquarters. Meantime, the other law agents ransack the vacated houses for possible criminal evidence and, not unlikely, also illicit pickings.

I protested this clearly arbitrary operation in the case of Guazon v. De Villa, 161 SCRA 623, with Justice Abraham F. Sarmiento also dissenting and Justice Carolina Griño-Aquino joining both of us. The rest of the Supreme Court refused to act, on the convenient pretext that the petitioners were not proper parties. They remanded the case to various regional trial courts in Metro Manila for verification of the controverted facts, and that was the last we heard of it.

I also resisted the checkpoints that were upheld in the case of Valmonte v. De Villa, 178 SCRA 211, because I could not understand their establishment in 1989 for the absurd reason of "providing an atmosphere conducive to the social, economic and political development of the National Capital Region." Justice Sarmiento also dissented and so we did not feel alluded to when Ramon Tulfo called our colleagues "*isang katutak na bobo* (a bunch of morons)" and was fined P1,000 for contempt of the highest court.

I must say, though, that the checkpoints in the area of the military operations in Zamboanga City and its environs may be justified in their present context. That place is practically a war zone where the strictest precautions against the enemy must be taken. It is entirely possible that members of the Abu Sayyaf or at least its sympathizers have infiltrated it and may now be giving covert support to the bandit group under the very nose of the military.

Even so, it is absolutely necessary that those checkpoints be manned with full deference to the rights of the people passing through, the innocent as well as the supporters of the Abu Sayyaf. They are equally protected by the Bill of Rights, which is not suspended because of the emergency in Mindanao. Their individual liberties have not been diminished one whit, especially since martial law has not been imposed nor has the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus been suspended in that troubled area.

According to the Bill of Rights, no search or arrest warrant shall issue except upon probable cause to be determined personally by the judge after examination under oath or affirmation of the complainant and the witnesses he may produce. In a curious reversal of the Constitution, however, present jurisprudence would dispense with the warrant upon the determination of probable cause, not by a judge but by the soldiers at the checkpoint, and on the basis only of their own suspicions. Worse, they may even shoot down a person, innocent or not, who disobeys their command.

Probable cause is regarded, not as a pre-condition for the issuance of the warrant, but as a *substitute* for the warrant itself. That is not what the Bill of Rights says.

Given such extraordinary powers, the trigger-happy sentries should be extra-careful lest they violate the rights of the person under the hostile scrutiny of the almighty checkpoint. The trouble is that they will be emboldened to take constitutional shortcuts by the doctrine announced in Garcia Padilla v. Enrile, 121 SCRA 472. This martial law case held that insurgency was a continuing offense that could subject the offender to a warrantless arrest on the ground that he was legally committing the crime whatever else he might actually be doing at the time of his arrest.

Over the dissents of Justice Sarmiento and myself (as usual), that shocking doctrine was *affirmed* by the post-Edsa I Supreme Court in the case of Umil v. Ramos, 187 SCRA 311. (One suspected insurgent was arrested without warrant while supine in a hospital bed.) The public howled, and several other justices belatedly joined us on the motion for reconsideration.

The way it respects the Constitution as it wages its all-out campaign against the Abu Sayyaf will be the real gauge of President Gloria Macagapal-Arroyo's fidelity to the democratic way of life. Ferdinand Marcos believed despotism was the only answer to insurgency but he was wrong. President Macapagal should remember that the danger to our free institutions lies not only in those who openly defy the government and violate its laws. The greater menace is in those who, in the name of democracy, destroy everything it stands for and so undermine democracy itself.

The Australian example

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

THERE is much moaning and groaning and gnashing of teeth that takes place whenever the foreign exchange rate—the price in pesos of a unit of foreign currency, usually the US dollar—becomes the subject of discussion, which happens more and more often these days.

Exchanging looks of distress (on the part of the speaker) and commiseration (on the part of the listener) are also de rigueur on such occasions. Especially when the economic slowdown the country is experiencing is alluded to.

At this point in the conversation, as if for additional emphasis—and show of concern—there also occur those unique clucking (or maybe more like tsk-tsking) sounds. Almost as if these signs and sounds were the indication that their source had the inside track on the subject, lack of concern generally being equated with lack of knowledge.

The why of the matter takes up most of the time in these discussions. The external and internal factors that are contributing to the depreciation of the peso are examined in great and fascinating detail.

Some degree of comfort is derived from the knowledge that the external factors are beyond the country's control. The economic slowdown being experienced by our major trading partners is an overarching consideration here, with special attention being given to the contraction of their microchips/semiconductors sector (which dominates, alas, our exports). And lately, even the Argentine crisis, where that country is momentarily expected to announce its inability to service its foreign debt (the dreaded D word for default), has been mentioned as a possible contributor, via its contagion effects.

There is general agreement that the external factors provide the major reasons for the peso depreciation, given similar performances by other currencies in the region. But the internal factors get by far the most attention, because of the golden partisan political opportunities they represent.

The Abu Sayyaf issue, the kidnappings, the political instability are fodder for the political mill on both sides. Which is really par for the course.

Where I draw the line, however, is when (odious) parallels are drawn between the Estrada and Macapagal administrations, and even that the Estrada administration did better than its successor. Which is nonsense. Of course, there is a huge difference: Mr. Estrada was part of the problem; Ms Macapagal is part of the solution. Let no one forget that. At the very least, give her credit for her 15-hour days and her grasp of the situation, instead of lying in wait for her Sona, with knives at the ready.

She is being excoriated for thinking about 2004. Of course, she is thinking of that. So would anyone else in her position. But that is not necessarily bad for us. That can be a tremendous incentive to do a good job on her part—because if she succeeds, her election is assured. So the consideration that should always guide her decisions is whether it is good for the people, for the country. Because what is good for the country will also be good for her.

The problem arises when the main consideration becomes whether it is good for Ms Macapagal (or her reelection). Because what is good for her at first glance may not necessarily be good for the country, and this will eventually boomerang on her. As Estrada learned, to his bitter regret. Which would have been all right if he were the only one affected. Alas, the country also suffered great damage in the process, which is what we are trying to avoid in the future.

But does the bottom line in all these discussions have to be a gloom-and-doom scenario? The economic recession that mighty Singapore is experiencing—and it doesn't even have the domestic problems we have—is that inevitable for us?

I don't think so. And I offer Australia as a case in point for the counterargument. Australia, like the Philippines, has the United States and Japan as its main trading partners. Australia has seen its currency depreciate, and allows that at this time. The Australian dollar is probably undervalued by 25 percent.

Yet Australia expects to be growing by about 4 percent this year (which is excellent for a developed country), fuelled by booming exports. And Australian economists—from both the public and private sectors—make no bones about the fact that it is the undervalued, the cheap Australian dollar, that is behind the export boom. They also admit that should their currency appreciate at this point, there's a real possibility of a slowdown.

See how it works—for Australia. Japan's doddering economy makes the Japanese consumer anxious to stretch the value of her money. Comes now Australian beef—which is attractively cheap, as are all other Australian products. The result? A mutually beneficial situation for both Australia and Japan. Australia gets to sell more, and Japan gets more product for its money. What's more, manufacturers of import-competing domestic Australian products also get the upper hand on the foreign competition. Which is what we all want, isn't it?

So why can't the Philippines turn its cheap currency to its advantage, instead of moaning, groaning, gnashing and clucking? Therein lies a tale, many times told. It obviously needs retelling. Soon.

Challenge for GMA administration

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

ON THE EVE of the opening of Congress and the first State of the Nation Address (Sona) by President Macapagal, it is timely to feature here a July 13, 2001 report written by Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU) Philippines Inc. president Peter Wallace titled, "Does the Philippines Have a Chance?" Wallace is well-known in political and business circles, having been president of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and a Manila resident for over 30 years (he is married to a Filipina). He publishes a monthly political and economic report for multinational companies here, called "Alert" as well as periodic surveys of business attitudes and thinking on vital issues, and acts as consultant to various firms.

Wallace's latest report would probably disturb with its candor, but that's what he wants to happen. He wants this report to stimulate not only some discussions but also "pressure for necessary change", from "one who loves this country and is convinced, after over 30 years of analysis, that very fundamental change must occur if poverty is to be eradicated and the average Filipino will have a chance for a decent life in his own country."

* * *

This report is timely as the new Congress, as well as President Macapagal, has espoused the need for reforms in our politics, although actions frequently don't match advocacies. We hope it will mean a change. It is also timely since, as Wallace points out, President Macapagal now has the "unique opportunity" to effect changes, as she has a possible nine years to address the underlying root causes of the Philippines' failure to develop like its neighbors—to do better than them, in fact. "A nine-year presidency gives the chance for that change," he opines, stressing that this is the challenge for the Macapagal administration.

* * *

In his report, Wallace surveys the past 25 years and points out that during this period the Philippines had a 3.1 percent average annual gross domestic product (GDP) growth, and that from time to time the GDP hit 5 percent, but the economy couldn't sustain it. The highest rate it ever achieved was 8 percent, and that was only in 1976. Clearly, this 3.1 percent is not good enough, as other countries have done better in the same period: China, 9.7 percent; Korea, 7.8 percent; Singapore, 7.7 percent; Malaysia, 6.8 percent; Thailand, 6.5 percent; and Indonesia, 5.4 percent. Some of our Asian neighbors have hit 9-percent averages for up to 9 years, and even during the Asian financial crisis most did better than the Philippines' 25-year average, Wallace notes.

Worse, he says, if this is viewed on a compounded basis, calculating from a base of 100 in 1976, then China has grown five times more than the Philippines, and Thailand (the country we can reasonably compare with) has grown at least two times more. And on a per capita basis, the Chinese have become seven times richer and the Thais three times.

* * *

The question is, why haven't we grown as fast? Wallace lists down nine factors: politics, vested interest versus national good; failure to manage the population factor; weak educational system; corruption; inadequate infrastructure; agricultural system that hasn't improved in 25 years; inadequate focus on job creation; judiciary in need of improvement; and security. Wallace opines that if these things aren't fixed, the Philippines would average 3.1 percent for the next 25 years again. At our present rate of growth of population and economy, he opines, it would take 30 years to reach where Thailand is today. He points out that 25 years ago, the Philippines was ahead of Thailand and 40 years ago, it was second only to Japan. Wallace opines that the Philippines, as currently structured, cannot hope to achieve these growth rates, and will remain Asia's laggard "unless it makes a massive, radical change. The Philippines cannot tinker at the fringes, the change must be radical."

* * *

Among nine factors Wallace mentions, I think three are the most difficult to eradicate: the politics of vested interest, the weak educational system and corruption. Among the three, I would rank the political factor as No. 1.

Wallace says that, with notable exceptions, local politicians are driven by their own agendas. Citing one example, he notes that we are proud that there were only two deaths during the May 1 rebellion, but there were close to 100 deaths related to the elections. "No developed democracy kills its opponents just to gain a position of power." He asserts that if the masterminds of the assassinations go to jail, the culture starts to change for the good. "Martial law, seven coup d'état attempts and the recent rebellion are just the more extreme examples of wanting personal power regardless of what's good for the nation," Wallace says. "Running for office when you are clearly untrained to handle it (as Mr. Estrada highlighted) is another example." The millions of pesos spent and the cheating that were reported in the recent elections "are actions of people desperate for power, not actions of people genuinely wishing to serve."

* * *

Since Monday will see the opening of Congress, let me quote that part of Wallace's report pertaining to politicians: "No business would put an inexperienced, poorly educated person in charge of a company; yet too many cities and regions, which are at least as complicated as a corporation to run, are run by people without adequate experience or training. And the low government pay ensures most of his/her support staff are of mediocre capability as well. Politicians, if they seriously care about their country, need to start considering what's best for the country, not what's best for them. And Filipinos have to vote more wisely and demand honesty and competence from their leaders. Two facts that are confirmed by (1) Edsa II (the result of not voting wisely), and (2) the recent rebellion (power-hungry politicians uncaring about what impact their actions have on the country)."

On top of all this, he opines, is the need to clean up the political system by charging and convicting—and jailing—those guilty of illegal activities.

* * *

Wallace looks at reforms in education as the basic solution, as it works three ways: "First, if everyone is educated, then those elected will be part of that educated lot; second, an educated populace will be more aware of the issues and vote more wisely; and third, it provides social mobility as the late President Diosdado Macapagal so well demonstrated, rising from being a farmer to president of this country." Wallace argues that while the Philippines missed the Industrial Revolution, it should seize the chance in the Information Age. The country could be a priority to consider for Information Technology services, but it has to make a number of changes, among them, bringing back English as the primary language. "English opens a country to the world—and to IT. Which is in English—not Tagalog, or worse, a local dialect."

Messages in the (e)mail

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

ONCE in a while, you get to read something that makes you feel so good you want to share the experience with as many people as you can.

Perhaps this is how Mike Bolos, a Filipino based in Riyadh, felt when he first read this article, published in the Arab News, the first English-language newspaper in Saudi Arabia. This may explain why he sent this "interesting" article via e-mail. And I tell you, it does brighten one's day to read something written of Filipinos that has nothing to do with crime, violence or political instability. For starters, the article is titled "Filipino ethics will get the job done."

Here's how the piece starts:

"'We have Filipino workers.' This is the sign being flashed outside electronic service centers. We also find such messages being written on trucks for moving household goods.

"The question begs: Why has the Filipino worker become an advertisement for luring custom? The Filipino worker, in comparison to other laborers, stands out. He is known for his keenness to do the job, for his honesty in dealing with customers and he respects time. In other words, if he has given you a date to deliver your goods, you would find him living up to his word. You would also be avoiding any unnecessary arguments or excuses, as would have generally been the case with some Arab workers.

"What makes him that way? What is the secret behind his aptitude and success? Is it due to the fact that he comes from a nation where people honor work and are trustworthy? Or could it be that they are given more practical training?"

* * *

THE ARTICLE, which reads more like a "letter to the editor," goes on to compare Filipino workers with their Arab counterparts, with the natives measuring up unfavorably. The Arab worker, said the writer, "is willing to take up any job and is ready to fix anything. He's a mechanic when needed, a plumber if given a chance or even an electrician if you want!

"In addition, he has the gift of the gab and has mastered the art of tricking you. He's persuasive enough to get you to buy a fake spare part, swearing that it is an original and that the receipt proves that. What an Arab worker needs is work ethics that will override the image perceived by others that he is not trustworthy and lazy. That of course involves all areas of work, including jobs that require special talents."

Given the bad rep that Pinoys have harvested, an image we ourselves seem to have accepted, it does feel good to be recognized for our native willingness to work and even our strict observance of "ethics" in the workplace.

What makes this observation all the more heartening is that the endorsement of the Pinoy work ethic comes not from a Filipino but from someone whose name sounds distinctly Arabian. To Mustafa Idrees, then, many thanks for the compliments to our hardworking workers in the Kingdom!

* * *

SEEMS that e-mail "sensation" surrounding the alleged cannibalistic gourmets of Taiwan who love feasting on roasted human fetuses has achieved the status of urban legend. How else explain its inclusion in a website devoted to debunking urban legends, particularly those created through the Internet?

Victor Velasco, a Chicago-based "information architect," felt compelled to investigate the matter after he got inundated with messages on this "scandal." It reached a point, he said, when he received the same message and images "three times in one day from three different people."

Prompted perhaps by both curiosity and indignation, Velasco checked the story's wherewithal and discovered that the photos were taken seriously by law enforcement groups and that even Scotland Yard and the FBI investigated the matter. "Its origin was quickly uncovered: The man in the photo is Chinese artist Zhu Yu, who performed a conceptual piece called 'Eating People' at a Shanghai arts festival in 2000. The controversial photo has since been part of a number of art exhibits. As for the 'baby,' it was most likely constructed by placing a doll's head on a duck's carcass."

A piece of performance art, meant to agitate, shock and galvanize, has succeeded far beyond the creator's intention.

* * *

BUT shock value and sensationalism are not all that the "fetus-eating" e-mail is about. Why, Velasco asks, were so many otherwise sensible and intelligent folk so willing to accept the tale of the Chinese feasting on fetuses?

"Beyond the issue of cannibalism lies a more political agenda," Velasco quotes an analysis of the phenomenon. "Would this e-mail have gone the route it had if the picture showed a well-dressed Caucasian, eating a fetus in as ordinary a setting as a restaurant? I am certain that people will right away laugh at it as a hoax and assure themselves that no such savage practice can happen in a civilized nation as America or UK or France."

But in the mysterious East? Westerners have always suspected Asians of "off-tangent uncivility, if not downright savagery," says Velasco. "How long has it taken the Americans to (stop thinking) of Filipinos as other than barefooted, G-string wearing, headhunting savages?"

"Had the picture been of an American, people would have dismissed it easily as a joke. But no, it was of a Chinese from Taiwan where 'savage practices' are not only possible but 'occur daily.' Taiwan is not America. Asians are not Americans; they can—in fact, they do—eat their children. That is what the e-mail is about. It is not about the horror of cannibalism or of savagery. It is about the horror of being a Chinese, of being in an Asian culture. For this notion alone, the e-mail has proven more effective than the hate mail about Filipinos that has circulated the Web like wildfire some years back."

The failure of the elite

COMMENTARY

Robin P. Rubinos

WE have always been told that the reason our democracy does not work and our country does not progress is that the poor do not vote for the right candidates. We always hear complaints that the lower classes in our society vote for movie stars, radio and TV personalities and traditional politicians, not for honest and highly qualified candidates.

If we look at those who are saying all these things, we will see that they belong to the higher economic strata. They are either the rich themselves, or their surrogates in the media, business, schools or the church.

Nobody has asked the poor to speak and explain why they vote for movie stars or media personalities or the traditional politicians. Is it because we are afraid to hear what they have to say?

Let me advance an opinion: The reason our democracy does not work and our country is such a mess is not that the poor don't know how to vote wisely but because the elite corrupted our elections and our government. Nobody gets elected president, senator, congressman, governor or mayor without the money of the rich. The rich support candidates so that after they are elected, these officials will give them business favors.

No candidate can win a major position without the blessing of the elite. The poor are left with the crumbs like being a barangay or municipal council member. These minor positions don't really matter in terms of setting down governmental policies.

To win, a candidate must get the support of the rich, otherwise he has no chance at all. To get this support, one must join a major political party financed by big businessmen.

And once a candidate wins, he has to recover the expenses, which can only be done by getting kickbacks from infrastructure projects or taking bribes from businesses for the approval of favorable policies or for the grant of franchises. Few are the politicians who would bite the hand that feeds them.

In other words, once the candidates they supported are installed in office, the elite will make sure they recover their investments in terms of favorable policies, programs and projects. And the elected officials, of course, will follow the dictates of their patrons, lest they lose their bread and butter.

Elected officials cannot afford to go against their patrons. The elite have unlimited resources to bribe, threaten or harass anyone who doesn't toe the line. If anyone is perceived to be a traitor to their cause, they'll make sure he loses in the next elections by depriving him of campaign funds and spending heavily for his opponent. So, if anyone wants to last long in politics and power, he must dance to the elite's tune.

This is the reason the government generally acts to benefit businesses rather than the ordinary folk. That is what the elite want, and it is they who control the government.

If you look at our roads, these are built mainly to facilitate the transport of goods not really for the convenience of commuters. These superhighways are built to connect the source of raw materials to the factory and then to the market. Ease of travel is not the main intended effect even if it is useful in creating the illusion that we are becoming modern and progressing. But what do paved roads serve for hungry stomachs?

In small provinces or towns which have no raw materials or factories and not heavily populated, and therefore not a profitable market, the roads are deplorable. They are not a priority of the government.

This is the reason there are no roads to many barangays or, if there are, these are not well-maintained. Most of our barangays have no passable roads, especially during the rainy season. The roads found in many areas are the same roads that existed as far back as we can remember.

If we had roads going to all our farms, instead of superhighways, flyovers, skyways and light rail transit systems, farmers would earn a decent living from their produce which they can bring to the market easily. Then the greater majority of our people would not wallow in poverty, like they do today.

This is just one example of a government policy which is elitist and anti-poor. It is not difficult to find a great many others for in fact this is the policy direction of the government which exists for the rich.

So the next time you hear people say that the cause of our hardships is that the poor do not know how to choose good leaders, think again. Whatever faults the poor may have, voting for movie and TV stars and traditional politicians is not one them.

Robin P. Rubinos practices law in Antique.

Animal lottery

Jason Moss

YOUNGBLOOD

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

HAVE you ever dreamed of numbers? I have—25, 73, 19, 82—and I bet on them in the lottery, like what the old folks say. For months I bet on 25-7-3-19-8-2, six numbers in all, but I never won. Recently I sat outside my garden wondering what they meant and then a sense of déjà vu came over me.

The night before, I was walking with some friends in our village park when we heard kittens crying a few meters away from where we stopped. A car was parked on the street, and I saw a girl bending down with kittens in her hands. My heart felt warm because I thought she was going to pick up the abandoned little kittens and take care of them. But to my horror, I realized that this sweet-looking, pampered, little girl was actually getting rid of them. I thought that, thanks to her parents, she now knew what to do if she has an unwanted pregnancy.

I felt helpless. I wanted to run after the car and tell the girl and whoever was with her to take the kittens back, for they had no chance of surviving by themselves in the park. But it was too late.

I picked up the kittens, ran home and got my car and circled the village for an hour looking for the car whose plate number I remembered. All the while I was thinking of what I would tell them if ever I found them. I was willing to take care of the kittens, provided that they kept the kittens with their mother until they grew old enough to eat solid food.

I couldn't find the car, so I took the kittens home. I took them into my studio and placed them in a basket with newspapers. I found some sterilized gloves, filled one with hot water and tied it up, and placed it inside an old sock to replicate the absent mother's body heat. The other I filled with milk and punctured holes in each finger with a sterilized needle to replicate the absent mother's nipples. (I learned later that a better way to feed them was to use a tube or a medicine dropper.)

I knew it wasn't working because their eyes were closed, and at this stage, they needed their mother's milk. The kittens didn't like the milk, but at least the hot water kept them warm for the night.

In the morning, I called up an animal shelter in Makati. The owner was 73 years old and she's been caring for abandoned and stray animals since 1982. During our conversation on the phone, I felt relieved to know I had so many options about what to do with the two kittens. She also told me about animal rights. She expressed surprise that at my age, I found time to do something like that, implying that in her view twentysomethings think of nothing but earning big money and becoming successful in their careers.

I told her that the kittens were cold and dying. She told me that there were no stray cats in her shelter to provide milk for them. I said not one of my friends would take them in and I couldn't keep them because I had five dogs.

I was considering euthanasia as an option, but our maid then told me that when you kill a cat, your life would be short. I told her this was the new millennium, and smoking, taking drugs and staying up late were what make one's life short.

Now I know the numbers in the dream stood for my age (25) and that of the old woman (73) who has been doing such kind acts since 1982. That was the year she realized that Filipinos have had no respect for the simplest form of life, abandoning innocent lives or even putting them inside plastic bags and hurling them out of their speeding cars or leaving them on the road to be crushed by other vehicles. They must be heartless or sick.

Still strong at 73, this woman felt that her efforts were too little and ineffective. I was able to bring her hope because I cared, she told me.

It took me an hour to write this and a day to care for the two hungry kittens. I have a long way to go before I reach 73, and I hope I can fill in the areas she has failed to cover and follow her example of having a strong and compassionate heart.

What can one do to help? There are many options. For example, you can become a Buddhist or at least study Buddha's philosophy about respect for life. Or you can put up an animal shelter. The only option you cannot exercise is to ignore these things. If you want to break this chain of cruelty, you can start by caring and showing respect for the simplest forms of life.

Jason Moss, 25, works as a children's book illustrator.

Poverty is reason

Zandro G. Rapadas

MINDANAO has been going through a cycle of violence and destruction for more than three decades now. From the infamous Jabiddah massacre of 1968, the birth of the Moro National Liberation Front and later on the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, to the ruthless kindnapping spree of the Abu Sayyaf, the conflict down South has continued to simmer. The government may have taken over several rebel camps, but neither the MILF nor the Abu Sayyaf appears ready to raise the white flag.

In searching for solutions to the armed conflict in Mindanao, the Macapagal administration could perhaps start by asking basic questions. What are the real issues behind the conflict? What does this long history of fighting tell us? For all we know, we may be treating an illness even before a diagnosis has been made.

I believe that poverty is the single biggest factor that keeps the conflict alive. After all these many decades, Mindanao still lags behind most of the country in terms of economic progress. Despite the national government's generous infusion of funds for Mindanao's development, no significant change has been noted in the lives of both Muslims and Christians living on that big island.

Social services like education, primary health care, water supply and nutrition are inadequate. The bulk of national government subsidies for the region has been spent on infrastructure where opportunities for graft abound.

Instead of concentrating on a military solution, those who are serious about bringing about peace in the South should think about how poverty can be alleviated, if not eradicated. After all, more often than not, it is economic difficulty rather than ideology that drives the common folk to take up arms against the government. Just consider the peasants who easily joined the Abu Sayyaf in exchange for a bundle of cash.

However, we also have to realize that the only way to peace is peace. The Catholic bishops and ulamas in Mindanao now have such a good rapport among themselves that they are able to move beyond their own personal biases and prejudices and strive to promote the religious dimension of peace. As Archbishop Orlando Quevedo of Cotabato puts it, "In its most radical basis, peace is from the heart and of the heart."

The conflict will never come to an end unless the government opts to take the path of peace and gives top priority to solving the worsening poverty in Mindanao. Insurgency arises because the poor have been pushed too far and even silenced. That means its solution must be economic, not military.

Except for the Abu Sayyaf (which has a nebulous cause), the government should stop looking at the rebels as terrorists or savages but as people with real grievances fighting for redress. You may kill people but never a cause for it will always surface some time. This is the reason why the insurgency continues.

Investing more on education should be part of the solution to the conflict. Muslim leaders should start educating their poor Muslim brothers to be productive, self-reliant and effective partners in the governance of their communities, instead of waiting for dole-outs from the government. No matter how much the government tries to speed up the economic development, if the people themselves are not ready to take up their responsibilities, all efforts will fail.

Zandro G. Rapadas, 25, works as a researcher at the Ministry of Social Communications of the Archdiocese of Manila.

Living proof of war atrocities

WE were glad to read Jerry Barican's column, titled "The Japan that can't remember." The article provided the opportunity to highlight the issue in the local print media.

To update, Lila-Pilipina delegates represented the country's disgust over the textbook issue in a conference held in Japan last June. This was complemented by our protest action at the Japanese Embassy with our demand that the Japanese government junk the Tsukurukai textbooks and stop the distortion of history.

We, the lolas of Lila-Pilipina, stand firm and resolute with our demands for we are the living witnesses to the truth in history. Every physical and emotional pain and trauma is a painful reminder of our ordeal. We are the victims. We are the survivors.

Our very existence attests to the truth of our past. That is history.—**SONIA RAPISURA, secretary of the board, Lila-Pilipina Inc., 35 Scout Delgado St., Roxas District, Quezon City**

The Constitution or the IMF?

WHY does our economy keep on sinking?

According to Edsa II seers, it was because of President Estrada and the graft and corruption, lack of transparency, cronyism, nepotism, etc. of his administration. Now Estrada is gone.

The Macapagal administration is transparent, so transparent it even telegraphs its punches to the enemy long before they are delivered. But the economy keeps on sliding as symbolized by the falling peso.

Finance Secretary Jose Camacho blames psychological and external factors: The peso is falling because a newspaper headlined an overblown projected budget deficit. It is also a response to Argentina's impending default on debt payment.

I think, however, that there is a more fundamental reason. Our government cannot act decisively on economic matters because it does not know which to follow: the Constitution or our commitments to the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization.

No matter what its critics say, our Constitution is nationalist, democratic and humane. Article XII, on the national economy and patrimony, clearly makes it the state policy to "develop a self-reliant and independent economy effectively controlled by Filipinos."

On the other hand, our commitments to the WB, IMF and WTO envision an economy controlled by and dependent upon profit-driven transnational corporations and foreign fund managers. In fact, it is the resident representatives of the WB and the IMF who make all important economic decisions in this country. They determine the policy direction in the areas of money, banking and credit which are the central controlling leverages of the economy. As the peso sinks in relation to the dollar, transnational corporations and foreign fund managers are making windfalls daily.

If there is a need for a constitutional convention, it is to resolve once and for all the paralyzing, deadlock between the Constitution, on the one hand, and the WB-IMF-WTO prescriptions on the other. Are we for the path defined by the Constitution or for the path defined by the WB, the IMF and the WTO?—**AMADO GAT INCIONG, Inciong and Associates, Unit 301 Union Square Condominium, 145 15th Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City**

Bandits on the streets

MAY I call the attention of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board or whatever agency is concerned to the overcharging and trip cutting of jeepney drivers. Many drivers plying the Pasig-Quiapo route cut trips at Crossing and Sta. Mesa Rotonda. Cubao-Divisoria jeeps cut trips at Sta. Mesa Rotonda or at Avenida. Morayta-Divisoria jeeps cut trips at Avenida. Divisoria-Baclaran, Dapitan-Baclaran or Monumento-Libertad jeeps cut trips at Buendia. Baclaran-Sucat jeeps also cut trips at Multinational, Evacom and Lopez.

In addition to trip cutting, many jeepney drivers also overcharge. Jeepney drivers charge P5 for the Crossing-Pasig trip; P4.50 for Quezon Boulevard-SM Sta. Mesa; P8 for Legarda-Crossing; P6 for Quiapo or Sta. Cruz to Buendia; P5 for Buendia to Pasay Rotonda or Baclaran; and P4.50 for Baclaran to Multinational. Mini-buses plying the Lawton-Moonwalk route charge P5 for Baclaran-Vito Cruz.

Furthermore, these jeepney drivers do not give fare discounts to students. And aren't elderly people also entitled to special discounts on jeepney rides? If yes, then this is another violation.

Do government officials know what is happening out there in the streets? Maybe they know but they just don't care or they do not know how to solve the problem.

I propose the creation of an Anti-Trip Cutting and Overcharging Task Force. Teams of three may be deployed to pose as passengers. One should be from the government while the rest should be volunteers who will serve as witnesses in the prosecution of erring drivers. The volunteers may come from NGOs or student groups. With the rampant violations by these jeepney drivers, the penalties they bring to the government would be substantial. The amount could help tide our cash-strapped government over. But most important, the government will be protecting our poor jeepney riders from these bandits on the streets!—**JONAH DIMAANO, c/o Pro-Life Philippines, 2486 Legarda St., Sampaloc, Manila**

Small price to pay

I WOULD like to make it clear that my personal life has nothing to do with my advocacy to pursue the plunder cases against former President Estrada to their final conclusions.

Whatever gains or shortcomings I have made in the past do not, in any way, have any bearing or effect on the Erap plunder cases. If my detractors think I would deviate from my advocacy of the truth behind the Erap plunder cases by hurling hollow stones at me, they are wrong. I stay focused.

However, allow me to make some corrections.

First, I resigned from the State Bar of California, which never suspended or disbarred me.

Second, I have never been an American citizen. I have never renounced my Filipino citizenship. I am proud to be a Filipino. I will continue to uphold this citizenship because I believe in the Filipino's search for the truth that will set him free from political and social monstrosities.

Third, I am not a fugitive from the law. I was never charged or convicted of any crime in the United States, in the Philippines or in any other part of the world. I am free to come in and out of the United States.

Obviously, there is a demolition job launched against me especially in the media, particularly through some columnists. But this is a small price for me to pay in our fight for equal justice for all. I would still do my job to prosecute the Erap plunder cases. I hope they would respect the truth.

My law practice, both in the United States and in the Philippines, as my harvest of testimonials will show, include service devoted to assist the weak and the poor in their fight for justice. I have rendered many *pro bono* (for free) cases at the risk of my own life.

To mention a few, I have prosecuted and obtained death sentences against four members of a criminal syndicate who murdered the former vice provincial commander of Occidental Mindoro (People of the Philippines vs. Wilson Lopez, et al., RTC Branch 46, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro). I prosecuted and obtained three life sentences against the murderers of businessman Marcel Rosete (People of the Philippines vs Romeo Cambarejan, et al., RTC Branch 138 Makati). I am prosecuting and have successfully caused the arrest without bail of three police officers headed by a police major and two civilians who raped a 15-year-old child, forced her to become a drug addict and sold her to prostitution (People of the Philippines vs Clemente Lanlo, et al., RTC Branch 46 San Jose, Occidental Mindoro). And the different cases we have filed in our courts all over the land on behalf of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines on national issues involving the rights of our people. I have written numerous articles in law journals and newspapers and spoken against the injustices committed against our people.—**LEONARD DE VERA, Mandaluyong City**

Ineptitude of the PCGG

I WAS prepared to dismiss the slights that came out of the mouth of Ruben Carranza, a commissioner of the Presidential Commission on Good Government who thinks he has the power to knock down anyone he perceives to be a "Marcos crony." I told myself all's fair, the fellow must do something to save the disgraced source of his livelihood from extinction, and crony-busting is a good way to do it.

Then I talked to Romy Capulong, whom Carranza has also practically branded a Marcos crony simply because he was my lawyer in a PCGG civil case involving Lucio Tan. He agreed that I should leave well enough alone, but he also told me Carranza had been a defense undersecretary during the time of Erap, until he very quietly merged into the Macapagal administration to become a PCGG gargoyle.

That got my goat. If Carranza thinks I am a Marcos crony for spending a few years in the Marcos administration, what does this make of him?

I admire and respect Haydee Yorac, the new PCGG chair, and it's not just for going to the right schools. She has a reputation for making things work.

I sincerely suggest that Carranza be told that instead of badmouthing defendants and victims, he should take a long hard look into the cases that have gathered cobwebs, legal and otherwise, in the PCGG premises over the last 16 years. I know many of them have the wrong names, the wrong addresses, the wrong designations and the wrong particulars.

This ineptitude and neglect partly explain why sequestered assets are sold without their ownership being established; why the PCGG enter into secret compromises with defendants; why some former PCGG men even ended up in New York streets peddling these assets; and why I was harassed with cases since an article I wrote about the dangers of sequestration got published in a newspaper.

Until these are corrected, Carranza ought not to start criticizing private citizens behind the dubious shield of official immunity.—**DON M. FERRY, senior partner, Ferry, Toledo, Gonzaga, Tria and Associates**

LETTERS

Rude SSS employee reassigned

THIS is in reference to the letter of Jolly Cinco last July 7, 2001. Cinco complained against alleged discourtesy of an employee in our Bacolod branch.

SSS Bacolod has identified the employee as Vilma Pongyan. She has submitted a written explanation on the incident.

The SSS management has instructed SSS Bacolod to reassign her to the backroom in a non-medical section to avoid a recurrence of the incident.

Regarding the death benefit of Cinco's father, Salvador, SSS Bacolod has started processing the claim. Our Bacolod branch will communicate with Jolly Cinco anytime soon.

For further details, we request him to coordinate with our Bacolod branch.—**JOEL P. PALACIOS, assistant vice president, Media Affairs Department, Social Security System, East Avenue, Diliman, QC**

Unsatisfied SSS beneficiary

AFTER MY frustrating experience with the Social Security System in claiming my maternity benefits, I think the idea of privatizing is okay. It could be the only way for the members to get better service.

In October 2000, I gave birth by caesarian section. I filed my maternity claim last January 2001. I received my check amounting to P20,666.40 computed at P344.44 a day for 60 days. The computation was based on normal delivery.

I applied for an adjustment. This was denied because, according to them, my monthly salary credit was greater than their computer records. I explained to them that it was not my salary credit that was a problem but their computation.

They asked me to apply a second time. This time I hope they'll get their computation right.—**EDNA B. AUSTRIA, 196 Road 1, Pag-asa, Quezon City**

Spreading the good news

THERE have been varied reactions from your readers about the way the INQUIRER handles the news. Mostly they are dismayed, annoyed and frustrated at the seemingly negative, callous images which pervade our consciousness each morning.

Last July 15, however, the INQUIRER's front-page coverage was interesting and positive. I refer specifically to "Once upon a Sunday in Mehan" by John Silva, "It's payback time for UP graduates," by Blanche S. Rivera and "The Brent School of his affections" by Ralph Graves.

Articles such as these make our day. My coffee actually tasted better. The report about the UP Gurong Pahinungod program and the young, idealistic teachers was especially inspiring. Please continue to spread the good news.

One more thought. Since we are again experiencing political and economic upheavals, please cut down on inane and trivial articles which highlight the yawning gap between our social classes. "Feel good" news which enlighten and extol real virtues and achievements will do a lot to boost our morale. There is need to reinforce our faith in ourselves to enable us to move forward.—**ISABEL CARO WILSON, ambassador, P.O. Box 1475, 1254 Manila**

Pag-IBIG regrets oversight

THIS has reference to the letter of Rommel C. Carrera (PDI, 7/12/01) regarding his mother's (Rosalinda) housing loan.

After a thorough review of Ms Carrera's account, a discrepancy in posting has been traced to another agency's oversight before the account was turned over to the Pag-IBIG Fund.

The matter has been explained to Ms Carrera and we appreciate her understanding, as we expressed our regrets for the inconvenience caused by the oversight.

Ms Carrera has just to pay P8,395.04, instead of P13,000, and she can claim her title anytime.

Thank you very much for giving us the chance to clarify the matter. The Pag-IBIG Fund is always ready to give our members service that is fair, speedy and the best we are capable of.—**MARGIE A. JORILLO, officer in charge, Public Affairs and Information Office, Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-IBIG Fund), The Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City**

Eye-for-an-eye battle plan

JERUSALEM—In the turbulent Holy Land, the biblical prescription of "an eye for an eye" can be a modern-day battle plan.

Israeli counterterrorism experts say an Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire, eviscerated by non-stop bloodshed, has ripened conditions for the rise of Jewish vigilantes seeking revenge. Apparently confirming those fears, suspected Israeli gunmen fired on a car near Hebron on Thursday, killing two men and a boy just 3 months old, perhaps the youngest victim in 10 months of fighting. A group calling itself "The Committee for Safety on the Roads"—a name alluding to the danger Jewish settlers face from Palestinian gunmen, claimed responsibility.

FEATURE

Deborah Camiel

The West Bank, where devout settlers stake an Old Testament claim, had already hatched manifestations of Jewish wrath: an anti-Arab underground group that was tracked down in 1984 and a decade later, a US-born doctor who massacred 29 Muslims in a mosque. Now, as Palestinian gunmen fighting an uprising against Israeli occupation kill and maim West Bank settlers, Israeli security officials are on the alert for hints of retaliatory attacks by Jewish militants, such as Thursday's seemed to be.

Ehud Sprinzak, an expert in right-wing violence, says such attacks are likely to be carried out by small groups or individuals rather than an extensive Jewish underground. "Most people active among the settlers are very experienced. They have been there a long time and they have seen an underground and they have seen people get caught. They know it is much better to work as individuals or small groups," he said. "You don't need an underground to avenge the blood of Israel victims. Our working assumption is that there isn't an underground and one is unlikely to be formed. That doesn't mean, though, that specific individuals will not take revenge and become vigilantes."

Israeli police suspected before the Thursday shooting that Israeli vigilantes were already active in the West Bank. Police had been investigating whether a squad of Jewish militants has carried out three shooting attacks—one against a Palestinian merchant, the second against a Palestinian taxi and a third on a Palestinian truck driver killed on June 13.

A claim of responsibility for the truck driver's murder was signed by the "Shalhevet-Gilad Brigade," a reference to Shalhevet Pas, a 10-month-old baby girl, and Gilad Zar, both West Bank settlers who had been shot dead by Palestinians.

The statement may have been the calling card of Israelis who have decided to take retribution into their own hands. "Revenge is holy," it said. "It should be up to the government to do it, but unfortunately the government does not care about the murder of Jews...there are people whose patience has run out."

So far, more than 600 people, most of them Palestinians, have been killed in almost 10 months of fighting. At least two dozen Palestinians and a dozen Israelis, many of them settlers, have been killed since a ceasefire went into effect on June 13.

The Israeli human rights group B'Tselem has approached the police about six incidents in which it suspects settlers killed Palestinians, since the violence flared in late September.

For Palestinian militants demanding the West Bank and Gaza Strip for a future state, settlers living on land which Israel occupied in the 1967 Middle East war are legitimate targets.

Boaz Ganor, director of an Israel-based international counterterror research institute, said Palestinian President Yasser Arafat was baiting the settlers. "Arafat is pushing the settlers to retaliate by provoking attacks against them, and putting the spotlight on them so the international community will be focused on them if they explode," he said. "It is called the democratic dilemma. On the one hand you have a democratic government that has to show its people that it is successfully thwarting terrorist attacks, but in order to do that it has to use methods that do not go hand-in-hand with democratic principles."

There are already signs that the 200,000 settlers who live among three million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza feel they have been driven into a corner. In recent weeks, irate settlers have blocked West Bank roads, attacked Palestinians, vandalized their shops and homes, burned their cars and set their fields on fire.

Although spokespersons for the mainstream settlement movement publicly disavow violence, Ganor said the truce brokered by the United States in mid-June has been a hothouse for Jewish militancy. "The ceasefire...intensifies the feeling that the government cannot or does not want to use its capabilities to thwart (Palestinian) attacks, making this a comfortable time for the appearance of such organizations," he said.

Baruch Goldstein, the settler who carried out the mosque massacre in the West Bank city of Hebron seven years ago, still haunts Israeli security officials. Goldstein, beaten to death after gunning down 29 worshippers, had been affiliated with the racist Jewish supremacy Kach group, one of several right-wing extremist organizations Israel has outlawed.

Like other shadowy brotherhoods—the elusive Sword of David and the Flame group—Kach's venom is reserved for Arabs and left-wing Jews. Supporters uttered veiled threats against former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin before a right-wing Jew assassinated him in 1995 to stop his peace moves with the Arabs.

"We can never rule out an individual like Goldstein," Sprinzak said. "There isn't much we can do about potential individuals who go berserk."

But berserk is in the eye of the beholder. Some settlers revere Goldstein as a hero.

Boaz Haniman, a resident of Beit El settlement, served two years in jail for his involvement in the West Bank underground that carried out a series of anti-Arab bombings in the early 1980s. He believes Goldstein was sane. "He made a very precise appraisal of the situation," he said. "It was not crazy in any way, because a wacko doesn't really succeed. You don't really achieve much in a frenzy."

The Jewish underground blew up the cars of Palestinian mayors, attacked other Muslims and plotted to blow up Jerusalem's Dome of the Rock mosque, one of Islam's holiest shrines.

The settlers have since lost their commitment, Haniman said. "There aren't a lot of crazies like us anymore—people who are willing to lose everything for the sake of a cause," he said. "(However), individual revenge is one of the things that could happen...If we take a historical example, the Goldstein example, that certainly could happen, on certain fringes."

According to Sprinzak, a combination of intense Palestinian attacks, communal sentiment in favor of Jewish terror and an Israeli government perceived as either impotent, indifferent or hostile to settler needs can breed organized Jewish violence. For now, he said, "the settlers may not be happy with (Israeli Prime Minister) Ariel Sharon but...in the back of their minds, this is still a right-wing government."

Sprinzak cautions, however, that a dramatic deterioration in settler security or a series of successful attacks on prominent settlers plus perceived government indifference may ignite "a rather massive attack...some kind of coordinated operation."

Noam Federman, the self-described head of Kach in Israel, said "Jewish terror" was the only response to "Arab terror." The emergence of such a group, he said, would not bother him. "We're not Christians—we don't turn the other cheek." *Reuters*

The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

Wahid suspends threat to slap emergency rule

JAKARTA—Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid yesterday suspended a threat to declare emergency rule, hours before his deadline for parliament to drop moves to force him from office.

But a new crisis loomed immediately with parliament threatening a snap impeachment hearing on Saturday if the embattled leader proceeded with plans to install a new police chief.

Wahid had repeatedly threatened to declare a state of emergency at 6 p.m. on Friday, dissolve parliament and call elections to avoid impeachment.

But speaking at yesterday's prayers he said all that he would do in the evening was issue a warning.

"I will announce later at 6 p.m. that if a compromise cannot be reached, on July 31, I will (then) declare that the country in a state of danger and I will declare a state of emergency."

He is scheduled to appear before the national assembly MPR on Aug. 1 to face an impeachment session over incompetence and corruption allegations, which he denies.

But before midday tensions had mounted again, and police helicopters clattered over the city as MPR chief Amien Rais said angrily that the assembly would convene a snap impeachment session Saturday if Wahid went ahead with plans to install a new national police chief without parliamentary approval.

"If . . . Wahid swears in (a) new police chief later at 4 p.m., we will later tonight hold a plenary session for the convening of the special session tomorrow," Rais said.

Presidential spokesperson Wimar Witoelar earlier announced that Wahid would swear in Commissioner General Chaeruddin Ismail as police chief to replace Gen. Suroyo Bimantoro.

WAHID

Witoelar was unable to explain why the defiant Wahid wanted the swearing in to go ahead before winning parliament's approval for the appointment.

The outgoing police chief has refused to hand over his command, despite being fired by Wahid, saying that until parliament approves the move, it is not legal. *AFP*

US vows it will not sabotage climate meet

BONN, Germany—With the United States' pledging not to sabotage their efforts, high-level delegates were working to salvage a treaty to combat global warming.

Despite its rejection of the treaty, the United States was the focus of talks Thursday, drawing stinging criticism from environmentalists who chided America for abdicating its leadership role and a plea from France to rejoin.

The US delegation, however, has stated firmly that its position will not change, and cast a watchful eye on the negotiations to ensure US interests are not threatened.

"While we do not believe the Kyoto Protocol is sound public policy for the United States, we do not intend to prevent others from going ahead with the treaty, so long as they do not harm legitimate US interests," Paula Dobriansky, the head of the US delegation, said during remarks at the ceremonial opening of high-level talks launched Thursday.

The Americans, reluctant to help pay for an accord they will not join, are monitoring a proposed $1 billion annual fund to help the Third World adapt to new technologies.

Under a formula proposed by Jan Pronk, the conference chair, the United States would be obligated to pay nearly 40 percent of the total based on its 1990 emissions levels.

But Pronk said Thursday it was unlikely that countries that do not join the protocol will be obliged to pay.

An American environmentalist, David Doniger, said the US withdrawal from the treaty created a renewed urgency to come up with funds to help meet the treaty's ambitious goal of reducing worldwide emissions by 5.2 percent of 1990 levels by 2012.

To go into force, the treaty needs the backing of 55 countries, representing 55 percent of the industrialized world's emissions. Environment ministers and top officials from 178 nations are negotiating how to implement the emissions cuts acceptable enough to bring the Kyoto accord into force by next year. *AP*

Live ammo killed Colombo protesters

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka—Although police said they used only rubber bullets and batons to halt a massive pro-democracy protest in the streets of the capital, a senior medical investigator yesterday said at least one of the two dead had been killed by a bullet.

The government posted soldiers with automatic weapons on the streets Thursday, backing police who blocked thousands of opposition-led demonstrators from marching into central Colombo to protest the suspension of Parliament.

Doctors at the two main hospitals said Thursday that 60 people were wounded by rubber bullets and batons, and that two protesters were killed, apparently from rubber bullet wounds.

Judicial Medical Officer Dr. L. De Alwis, however, said yesterday, "One of the victims was shot through the neck and jaw and death was caused by an injury to the spine from live ammunition.

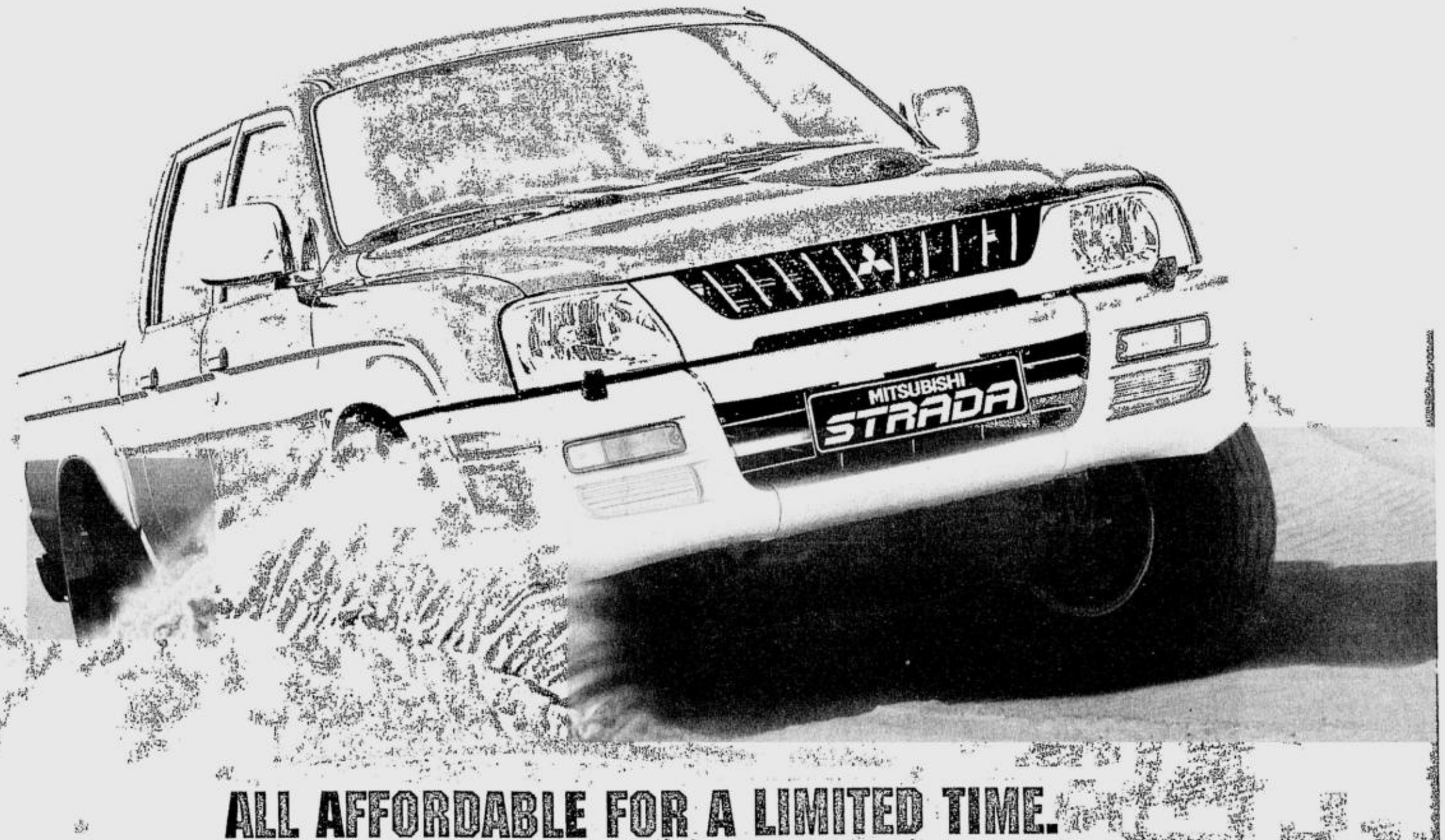
"He was killed by live bullets," said De Alwis, who is assigned by the Health Ministry to conducts autopsies when crimes are suspected. He said an autopsy on the second victim would be carried out late yesterday.

Colombo's deputy inspector general of police, D. Ignatius, said the deaths were being investigated.

The main opposition United National Party had called the protest against President Chandrika Kumaratunga's suspension of Parliament on July 11. She took the action hours after the opposition gathered enough support for a no-confidence vote, which she was likely to lose.

Police and soldiers have wide powers of arrest in Sri Lanka, under laws aimed at curbing Tamil rebels who have been fighting since 1983 for a separate homeland in the north and east for the minority Tamils in the Indian Ocean island nation of 18.6 million people.

Using those emergency laws, police declared they would arrest anyone who tried to demonstrate in the capital. *AP*



US, Taiwan militaries hold secret dialogue

TAIPEI—Senior US and Taiwanese military officials are holding talks near Los Angeles on beefing up regional security—continuing a secret dialogue that began five years ago but is only now coming to light, newspapers reported yesterday.

Local military experts said Taiwan hopes the United States will help it formulate better plans for repelling any attack by China—which claims Taiwan as a province and has threatened to go to war if necessary to achieve reunification.

Similar US-Taiwanese military conferences have been held regularly since 1996 when China held intimidating war games and caused tensions to flare over the Taiwan Strait, the reports said.

The reports said Washington concluded its military exchanges with Taiwan were inadequate and could open a crack in security.

Adm. Miao Yung-ching will head the Taiwan delegation at the two-day meeting that was to start Friday in Monterey, California, the China Times newspaper quoted unidentified officials in Washington as saying.

During the meeting, US officials will brief the Taiwanese on the US plan to build a national missile defense shield among other issues, the United Daily News said.

Taiwanese Defense Ministry officials declined to comment on the reports.

But Michael Tsai, a lawmaker of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party, said the Taiwanese delegates are expected to propose holding joint military exercises with the United States and beef up military cooperation.

"The balance of military power in this region has apparently tilted toward the Chinese communists in recent years," Tsai said. *AP*

G8 to launch $1-B AIDS global fund

ANTI-globalization protesters with their hands painted white march through the streets of Genoa July 19 as they protest one day ahead of the start of the G8 summit. Host nation Italy is mounting a massive security operation, pouring in 15,000 armed police and troops to ensure leaders from the US, Russia, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Canada can discuss global issues in safety on July 20-July 22. REUTERS

GENOA, Italy—The Group of Eight summit and the United Nations yesterday launch an ambitious new warchest to combat AIDS and other infectious diseases, the Global AIDS and Health Fund, already at more than $1 billion.

UN chief Koffi Annan, who is flying into this port city to join the heads of eight leading nations for the launch, on Monday urged industrialized donors to dig deep to add to contributions aimed at fighting the AIDS pandemic as well as diseases ravaging poorer nations, such as malaria and tuberculosis.

Between $8 million and $10 million are needed each year to fight AIDS, which already has killed some 22 million people worldwide, according to experts.

To date, Britain, Japan and the United States have pledged $200 million each to the fund. Germany has promised $130 million, France has promised $127 million over three years while the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has pledged $100 million.

Nigeria has pledged $10 million, Luxembourg $2.5 million, Uganda $2 million and Zimbabwe, Austria and Swiss insurance firm Winterthur have promised $1 million each.

Canada on Wednesday announced it will contribute $100 million to the fund, which has around $1 billion in pledges and which is scheduled to be fully operational by Dec. 15.

Diplomatic squabbles have surfaced however as to who will manage the fund, which proponents hope will raise $9 billion by 2005.

The idea is to mobilize rich countries to help developing nations, especially in Asia and in Africa, where 25 million of the world's 36 million infected people reside, to fight AIDS in a two-pronged attack of prevention and treatment.

The notion of a global war chest to battle AIDS was first floated at an April meeting in Abuja, Nigeria, by Annan and reiterated at last month's historic UN special AIDS summit convened in New York.

The secretary general has made no secret of the pressures being exerted by a number of countries wishing to be among those who administer the fund, which is to receive financial direction from the World Bank and the aid of a scientific committee in choosing which programs to bankroll.

The European Commission, the United Nations and representatives from some 30 countries met last week in Brussels to prepare for the G8.

"It served essentially as a free-for-all to determine who would be represented" on the fund's administrative council, said an expert close to the negotiations who wished to remain anonymous. *AFP*

US fugitive extradited from France

PARIS—US counter-culture leader Ira Einhorn, convicted in absentia in Philadelphia for murdering his girlfriend, was extradited early yesterday to the United States after lengthy court battles, a source at Paris's Charles de Gaulle airport said.

The move followed a decision Thursday by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg to lift its request to the French government to suspend the transfer.

Einhorn, 61, left on board a private American plane for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at 1:25 a.m., the source said. Einhorn was to be met by his American lawyer Ted Simon.

In Washington, Federal Bureau of Investigation spokesperson Linda Veese said that federal agents were escorting the former 1960s peace activist aboard the charter flight. Einhorn would immediately be placed in detention by local police, Veese said.

He had been arrested Thursday at his home at Champagne-Mouton in southwest France where he had lived with his Swedish wife, Annika Flodin, since 1993.

Einhorn was convicted in absentia in Philadelphia in 1993 for the 1977 murder of his girlfriend Holly Maddux. Her body was found more than one year after her death in a trunk in the apartment the two had shared.

Since his arrest in France in 1997 after 16 years on the run, Einhorn has fought extradition and maintained his innocence, claiming he was framed due to his social activism in the 1960s and 1970s. *AFP*

EINHORN

Writer Archer draws 4 years for perjury

LONDON—Millionaire writer Jeffrey Archer, one of the most colorful figures in British politics, was sentenced to four years imprisonment Thursday after a trial with all the ingredients of one of his best-selling novels.

The 61-year-old peer, a favorite of ex-premier Margaret Thatcher who made him deputy chair of the Conservative Party, piled lie upon lie in winning a libel case 14 years ago.

It came back to haunt him in a turbulent career which has seen him veering from fiction to high politics and from bankruptcy to a place in the House of Lords.

Now he is in top-security Belmarsh prison in southeast London.

"It has been an extremely distasteful case, I can tell you," judge Humphrey Potts told him.

"Sentencing you, Lord Archer, gives me no pleasure at all."

A jury at London's Old Bailey criminal court found Archer guilty of two counts of perjury and two of perverting the course of justice in his 1987 libel suit against the tabloid Daily Star newspaper over claims he had slept with a prostitute. *AFP*

Japan textbook authors say Seoul is boorish

TOKYO—The avowedly Japanese nationalist group, which authored a much-disputed history textbook on Thursday rapped South Korea for a lapse of diplomatic etiquette in its campaign to get Tokyo to revise the controversial text.

"The South Korean government, in retaliation for the textbook issue, has continued to take actions forgetting courtesy to a foreign country and diplomatic rules," the group said in a statement.

The group, the Society for History Textbook Reform, is made up of historians who assert Japan has become too masochistic in assessing its past.

Their mid-school textbook has been accused of distorting the true history of Japanese military aggression in Asia before and during World War II.

The book, authorized by Tokyo in April, plays down events such as the 1937 Nanjing massacre in China and the use of hundreds of thousands of Asian women as sex slaves for Japanese troops.

In the latest salvo in the bitter row over the content of the book, South Korea's parliament on Wednesday urged the government to campaign against Japan's bid for a UN Security Council seat.

Japan last week rejected calls from China, Taiwan and both Koreas to amend the book.

But in a statement unlikely to calm the row, the Japanese group insisted: "Japanese history textbooks had been written to accommodate the interests of South Korea and other foreign countries and were abnormally distorted."

The group also attacked the Japanese media, saying they were acting as "a mouthpiece of the South Korean government and exposing the people of Japan defenselessly to menacing action" by Seoul.

The group also voiced its opposition to moves to overturn the authorization of the book for use in schools in the Shimotsuga district of Tochigi prefecture, north of Tokyo. *AFP*

Globelines

Burning train paralyzes Baltimore

BALTIMORE—A fire raging for a second day in a railroad tunnel under Baltimore cast smoke over downtown offices, shut down the Orioles' baseball park and burned fiber-optic cables, slowing Internet traffic across America.

Several city blocks were closed above the tunnel where a train carrying hazardous materials derailed Wednesday afternoon. Crews Thursday night began pumping hydrochloric acid from a derailed tanker car. Extreme heat had allowed them to remove only five of the train's 60 cars.

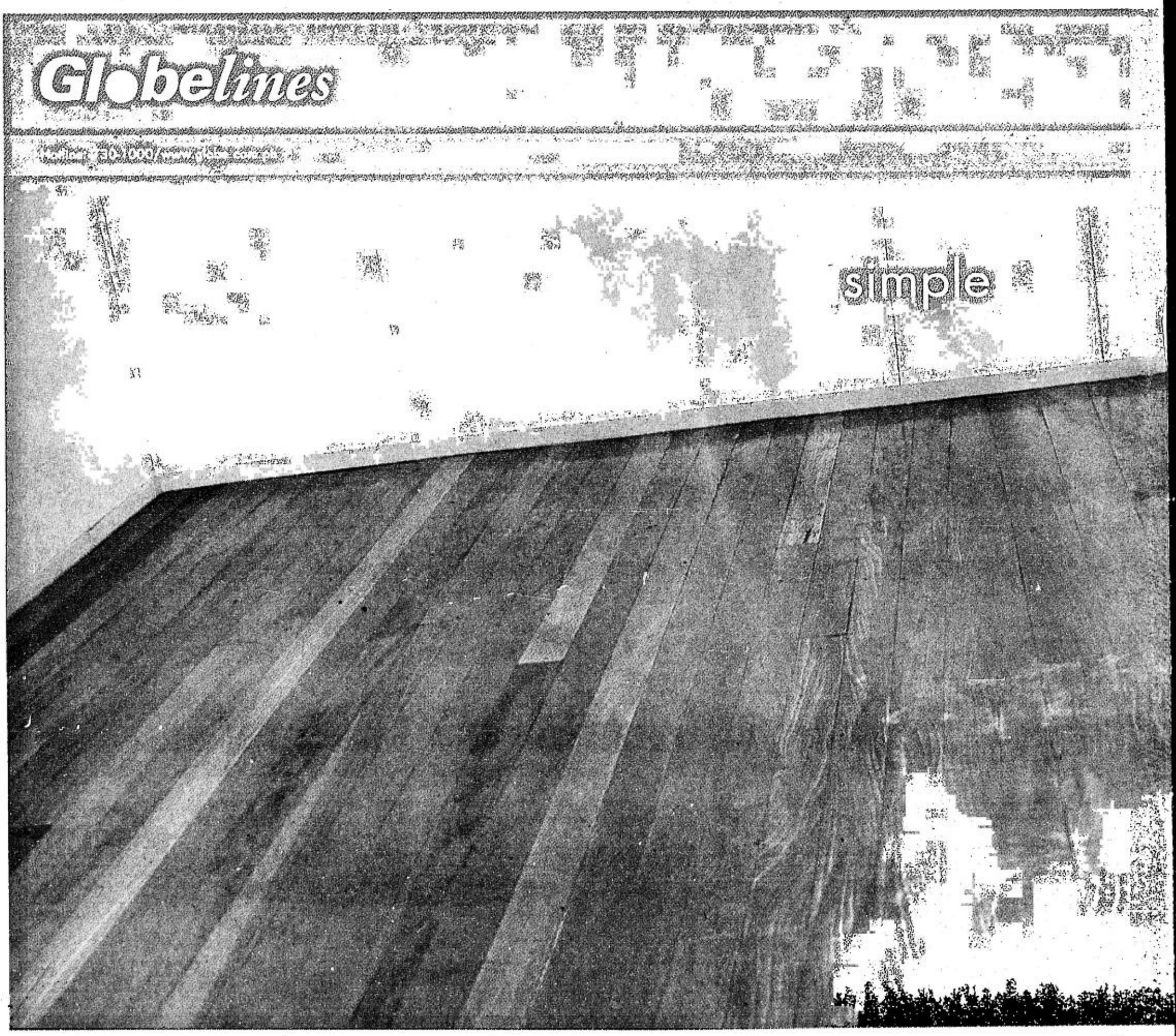
"We're told some of the boxcars are actually glowing," fire department spokesperson Hector Torres said. "You're talking about glowing metal. I'm guessing 1,000 or 1,500 degrees" Fahrenheit, or 500 to 800 degrees Celsius.

More than 100 firefighters battled the blaze. Two were hospitalized for chest pains Wednesday.

The train was carrying wood as well as hydrochloric acid and at least five other hazardous chemicals. But Torres said air quality tests showed that the smoke was coming mostly from burning wood.

"Right now, there doesn't appear to be any toxins in the smoke, so that's a good sign," Torres said.

The fire caused major Internet slowdowns in the mid-Atlantic states, and delays rippled across America as companies diverted web traffic to other lines. Fiber optic cable running through the tunnel was damaged by the blaze, but authorities said they had not yet assessed the extent of the damage. *AP*



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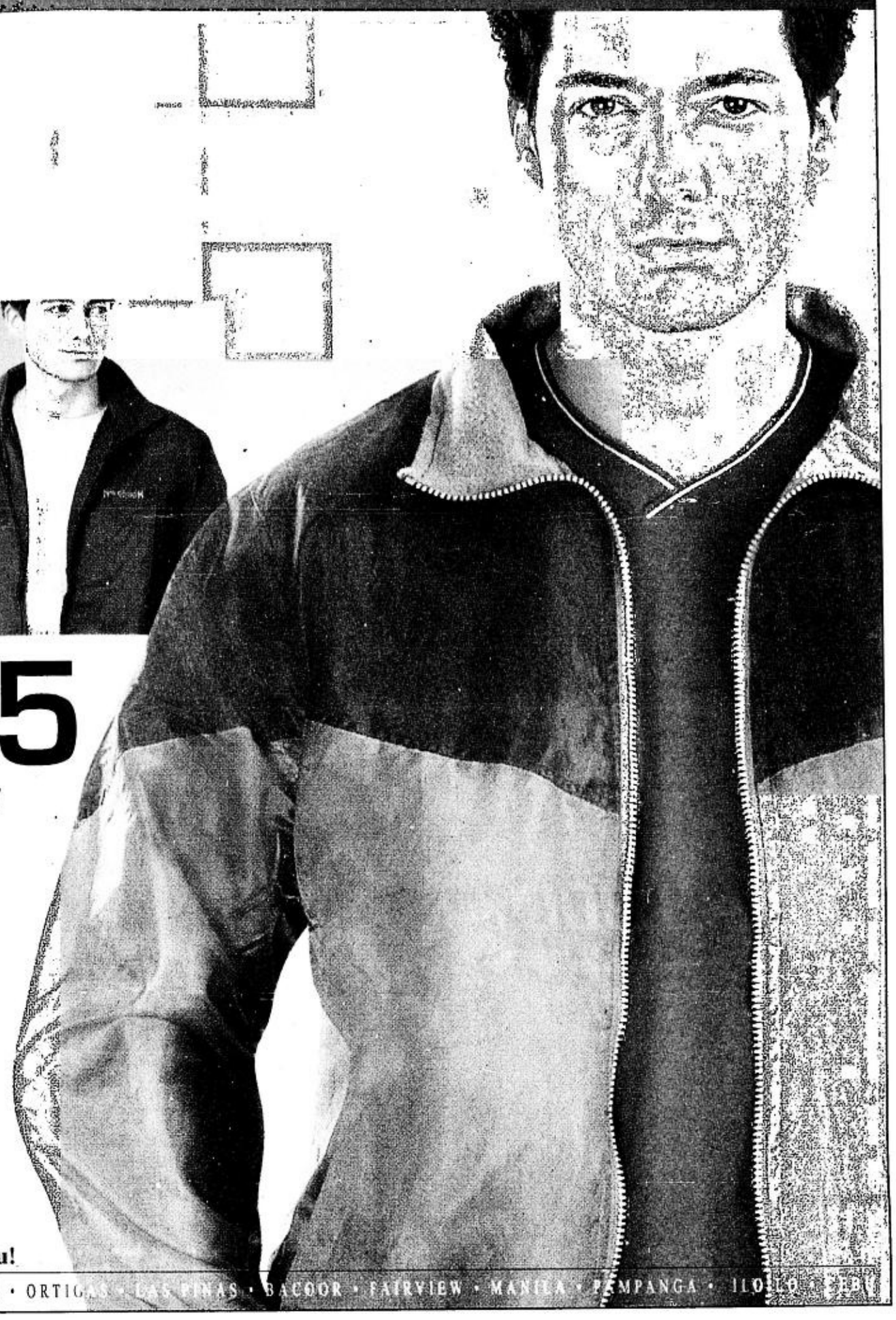

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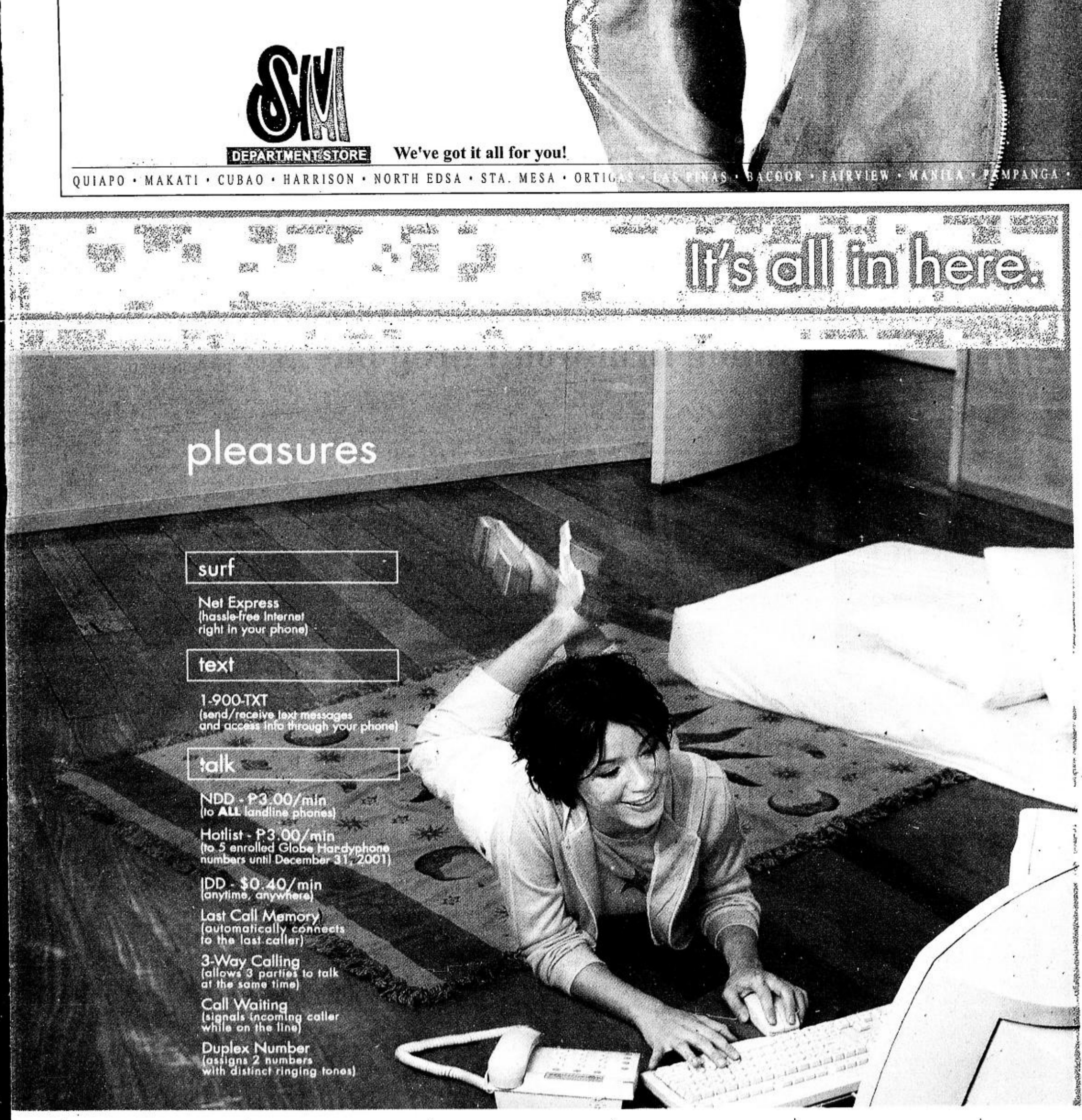

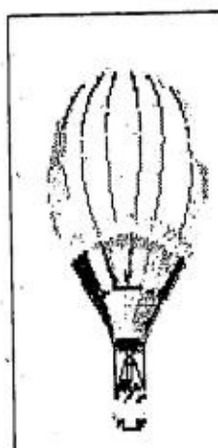

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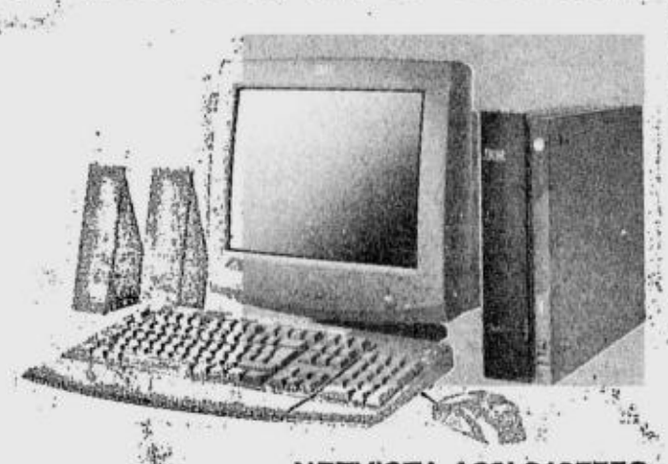

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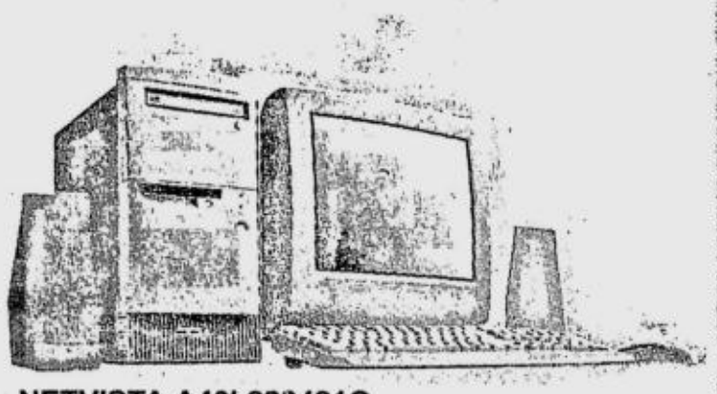

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

DFA steps in to free 34 Chinese poachers

BY JOFELLE TESORIO
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—The Provincial Committee on Illegal Entrants (PCIE) here released Tuesday the 34 Chinese fishermen earlier caught fishing in the waters of Rizal town.

The release was made after the Department of Foreign Affairs issued a memorandum raising diplomatic relations as one of the reasons the suspected poachers should be released.

It was not clear, however, if the release was the result of a bargaining agreement reached by the Chinese government and the Philippines.

Filipino fishermen were also caught months ago in Chinese territory.

The Chinese were apprehended by elements of the Philippine National Police Maritime Command who were patrolling the seas for the bandits who abducted 20 guests and staff members of the Dos Palmas Resort here.

The Chinese were released along with their two vessels after detention on Tabon Island in Quezon, Palawan. A certain Ho Iben of Hylan Ching Hai Hambon, Malaggay, China owned the boats.

The apprehending officers found 150 sea turtles, which were valued at $150,000. At least 143 of the turtles have been slaughtered on board.

The boats were estimated to be worth P6 million.

Cases of poaching, illegal entry and violation of Section 87 of the Fisheries Code of the Philippines for illegally catching endangered species were not filed despite opposition from special environment prosecutor Romeo Senson and the PNP-Maritime Command.

Provincial Prosecutor Luis Marcaida has ruled that the venue for cases of illegal entry should be decided by the PCIE before the courts could act on it.

The apprehension is only one of many cases of illegal entry in the province.

Last year, several Chinese fishermen were caught with slaughtered dolphins in their vessel.

After negotiations between the PCIE and the Chinese Embassy, the fishermen were fined and immediately released.

Senson expressed dismay over the PCIE's decision.

"Here in Palawan, a man was jailed for illegally taking one bird but these Chinese have been killing our turtles and our seas," he said in Filipino.

During her last visit in Palawan, People's Republic of China Consul General Chu Tao Ying said the Chinese had no intention of encroaching in Philippine waters.

"They were fishing in (the) China Sea when their fishing boat suffered engine failure," she said in an exclusive interview.

Senson, however, insisted that the government should be tougher against poachers.

He said it has happened in the past but the government, fearing that its relations with China would be strained, has remained soft on poachers.

He insisted that the PCIE has no jurisdiction over the matter because it is merely a recommending body.

The PNP-Maritime Command was also disgusted. One officer said their efforts always go to waste whenever foreign fishermen are caught.

Chief Insp. Jesus Castro, PNP-Maritime deputy director, also claimed that the fishermen lied when they told authorities they encountered engine failure.

He said the engine of Chinese vessel Qiongqionghai was in good condition when they allowed it to sail 54 miles from Rizal to Quezon town where it was temporarily held.

He added that the Chinese were obviously lying because they gave the wrong coordinates of their location.

When the longitude and the latitude of the location were plotted in the map, the location was inside a forest, not in the sea where they were found.

"How could a Chinese vessel be inside a forest?" Castro asked.

N. Luzon packages itself as alternative tour site

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—"*Abot sarap*. No Abu Sayyaf."

If leisure-seeking, safety-conscious foreign and domestic tourists find that enticing enough, then come to the North Luzon regions of Ilocos, Cordillera, Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon.

The invitation and the assurance are coming no less from Presidential Assistant for Northern Luzon Renato Diaz.

The Abu Sayyaf scare in the Southern Philippines, blamed for the 8 percent decline in tourist arrivals in the last four months, hardly intimidates Diaz, a former Nueva Ecija congressman.

"In North Luzon, things are looking up," he said.

"(The North Philippines Tourism Council is not buckling under the) temporary setbacks suffered by tourism in the country as a result of the Philippines' tarnished image abroad (due to) incidents involving the Abu Sayyaf," said council chair Ramona Lopez-Ty.

At least 2.2 million foreign tourists visited the country in 1999. Last year, visitor arrivals dropped to 1.6 million.

"That's rather alarming," Lopez-Ty noted.

For two days at the Fontana Leisure Estates here, Diaz and council leaders discussed strategies to boost the tourism industry.

The formula is to groom and aggressively promote North Luzon as the "country's next premiere tourist destination."

NPTC leaders said the first task is to "refocus."

"The Philippines is not only the Southern Philippines where in some parts the Abu Sayyaf operates. We have North Luzon, which you can also visit," Lopez-Ty, former Department of Tourism undersecretary, said.

Their target this year and 2002 is two million foreign tourists.

Working together is another objective, according to Lopez-Ty.

For instance, Lopez-Ty said tourism packages would have to link attractions within and outside North Luzon's 24 provinces, 19 cities and 407 towns that each has wonderful sights and activities to offer visitors.

"Beaches, caves, forests, archeological sites, hotels, resorts, parks, gardens, venues for conferences and family reunions, casinos—North Philippines has it," Lopez-Ty said.

Four sites are on the United Nations' World Heritage List: The Ifugao rice terraces and the centuries-old churches of Vigan, Paoay and Sta. Maria.

"Of course, Baguio City will maintain its stature as the country's summer capital," the officials said.

The economic freeports in Clark, Subic, Cagayan, Poro Point and John Hay and one shaping up in Aurora have tourism features, Diaz said.

To firm the grip of North Philippines, more investors in tourism ventures need to come, he said.

All these new thrusts, according to him, will be easy with the Clark International Airport here serving as the North Luzon gateway.

Through this doorstep, including the international airports in Laoag and Subic, North Philippines is only one-and-a-half hours away from Taipei and China, Diaz said. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Mining firm won't drop bid

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—An Australian mining firm is bent on pushing its mining bid in the ore-rich areas of Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino, causing concern among anti-mining groups over a possible reversal of its rejection by the Regional Development Council.

Alfredo Pascual, environment regional executive director, confirmed that Climax-Arimco Mining Corp. (CAMC) has asked for reconsideration of the RDC denial of its endorsement of the proposed mining for gold and copper in Barangay Didipio in Kasibu town.

"They have requested for reconsideration. They are trying to explain their side and (what) mitigating measures (they can carry out) if the RDC approves it," he said.

The council, composed of regional directors of the different government agencies, provincial governors, and local officials in Cagayan Valley, denied on Oct. 27, 2000 the CAMC request for endorsement of its planned mining operations.

According to the RDC, the firm's proposed mining project did not conform to the region's physical framework plan as required by its environmental compliance certificate.

In appealing the decision, CAMC "can go higher, possibly to the President," Pascual said.

Going a step ahead, Catholic Bishop Ramon Villena appealed to President Macapagal-Arroyo to help stop large-scale mining operations in Didipio.

Villena said the CAMC won't leave the area and is "offering promises to convince the people" to allow mining.

The proposed site, in the heart of the Mamparang-Palali mountain range on the boundary of Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino, was found to be within a critical watershed forest, the RDC said.

Under the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, mining operations should not be allowed within areas classified as "critical" watersheds or those that support major irrigation and hydroelectric projects.

Didipio villagers, composed of Ifugao, Kalanguya, Ibaloi and Bugkalot settlers, questioned the prolonged stay of CAMC personnel on the site despite the RDC rejection and stiff opposition from the local community.

Since 1999, civil society groups have been protesting the CAMC proposal. They have questioned the ECC granted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to the firm and the resolution of endorsement from the Didipio barangay council.

They said they feared the possible reversal of the RDC ruling, noting that top CAMC officials have reportedly been lobbying for such a reversal.

According to a report by Placer Dome Exploration, the area stores an estimated 4 million ounces of gold and 1.5 billion pounds of copper resources said to be worth $2.2 billion (P116.6 billion).

Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

No wage increase in Mindanao

DAVAO CITY—The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) said no wage increase is in the offing even as the Regional Tripartite Wage and Productivity Board has started with its Visayas and Mindanao consultations.

Labor Undersecretary for Mindanao Jose Española said unless there is a "supervening event," a wage increase is not feasible at this time.

"It is barely a year since the last wage hike," he said.

He said employees should instead strengthen their productivity and skills rather than demand an across-the-board wage increase.

Increasing the employees' productivity, he said, will put pressure on the employers to also increase their take home pay.

"We agree to a wage hike on one condition, the wage hike should be side by side with the improvement of the economy," he said.

As of April this year, employment in the country improved by 3 percent or roughly 30,000 workers but Española claimed that most of these workers are self-employed.

He said the wage board has yet to receive petitions for wage hikes from labor groups in Southern Mindanao who are instead opting to take the fight to the streets. *Joel Escovilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Soldier slain in ambush by NPA rebs

SAN LUIS, Agusan del Sur—A soldier was killed while two others were wounded when ambushed by suspected New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Barangay Kimambukagyang here on Wednesday.

Killed was Sgt. Israel Maramara of the 36th Infantry Battalion while wounded were soldiers identified only as Gabino Cuan and Fidel La Nuevo.

The soldiers were allegedly conducting operations in the Banwaon territory of this town.

Members of the Tagdumahan Organization of the Banwaon tribe said the military was providing security for the entry of heavy equipment of Tecland Inc., which is set to put up an Acacia Mangium Plantation in forests near the Maasam River.

The equipment are reportedly already in Barangay Segunda in Esperanza town, a few kilometers away from Sitio Bagnan, Mahagsay.

Nicasio Precioso, chair of Tagdumahan, said the Banwaons threatened to stop the entry of heavy equipment, forcing the military to step in.

Ma. Kristina Cassion, PDI Mindanao Bureau

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon and Visayas will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread rains over the Western sections. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms. SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Baguio	Cloudy	Hi 22° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 21°
Laoag	Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Cloudy	Hi 28° Lo 21°
Legazpi	Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Calapan	Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Roxas	Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/07/21/01

ROUNDUP

Syndicates hunted

MATI, Davao Oriental—Criminal syndicates operating in Davao City fled to this town after Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, known for his iron hand in busting criminals, assumed office. Maj. Alexis Gopico, commander of the Army's 8th Special Forces Battalion here, said authorities are now tracking down the syndicates.

Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

CIDG chief charged

MATI, Davao Oriental—The former chief of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group here was charged with protecting illegal logging and fishing before the Office of the Ombudsman for Mindanao. Supt. Melchesideck Bargio, provincial police chief, said SPO4 Antonio Hilario would also be transferred "but the problem is (that) no town wants to take him in." The INQUIRER, however, learned that Hilario is now deputy chief of police of San Isidro town.

Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Jica donates equipment

MATI, Davao Oriental—The Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) is donating some P500,000 worth of laboratory equipment for the provincial government's Red Tide Testing Laboratory. Alfeo Piloton, chief of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources here, said Jica will also provide chemicals for the red tide testing. Piloton said the red tide testing laboratory would be operational by September this year.

Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Rotary West Bay induction

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna—Rotary International District 3820 Gov. Jim Hao will induct into office the 2001-2002 officers of the Rotary Club of West Bay today at the Splash Mountain Resort here. Hao, the induction keynote speaker, asked the new officers and members to harness every avenue of Rotary service guided by the theme "Mankind is Our Business." Among those to be inducted are: Sylvia Oliver-Inciong, president; and Johnny Goloyugo, vice president, president-elect and secretary.

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Taiwanese held for poaching paralyzed

TUGUEGARAO CITY—A Taiwanese who was detained along with two others for illegally fishing off Philippine waters suffered a stroke and was paralyzed at the Coast Guard cell in Aparri, Cagayan.

Through his counsel, Taiwanese Capt. Lay Er Long appealed to the Regional Committee on Illegal Entrants (RCIE) for his temporary release from jail to get medical treatment in Manila.

Speaking for his client, lawyer Oscar Pagulayan said Long has tried to commit suicide but was stopped by his guards.

"In order not to worsen his condition, he should be taken to Manila for check-up," said Pagulayan, who is Cagayan vice governor.

Long, Jian Ming Pa and Cern Kuan Long were detained in Aparri by the Coast Guard after they were arrested on Feb. 28 this year in Gonzaga town in Cagayan.

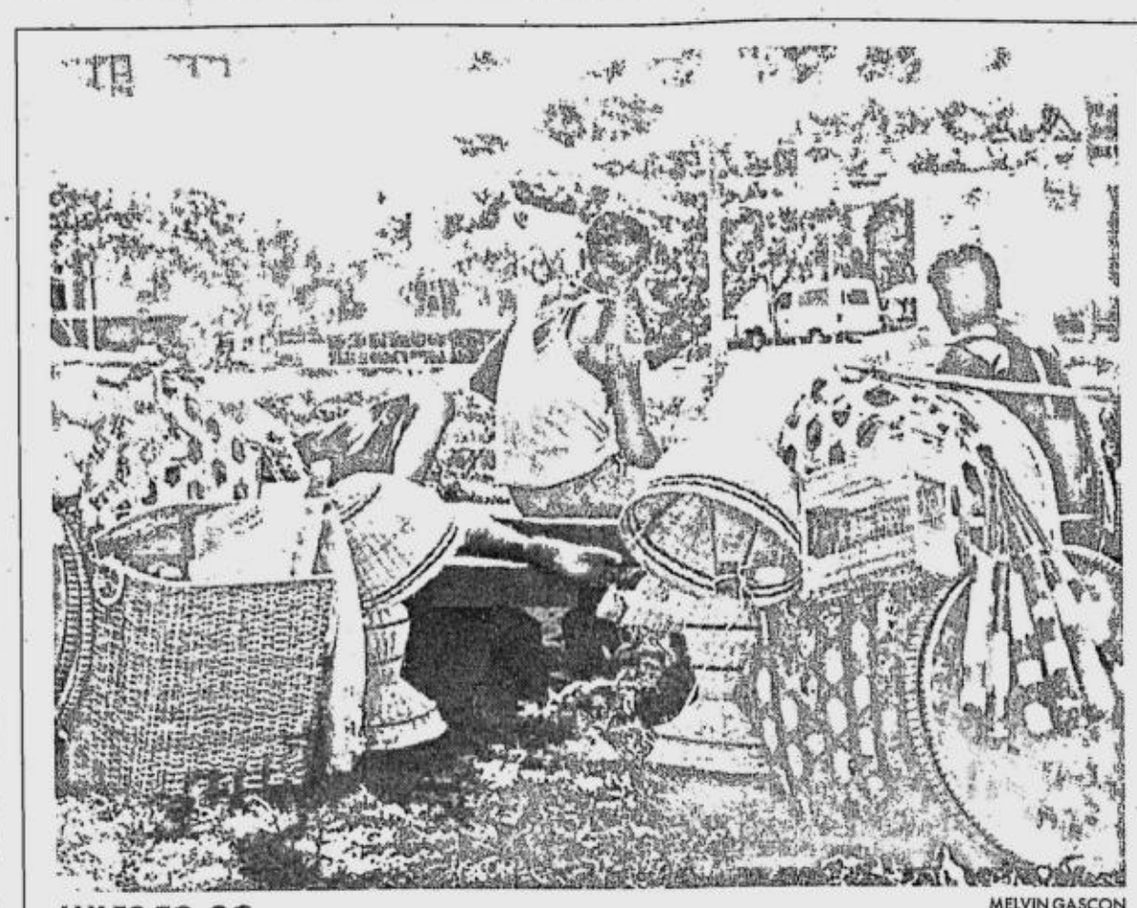
In a letter to the RCIE, Pagulayan said Long had lost P1.4 million to people who had promised him liberty. "(Captain Long) has been an easy prey of the unscrupulous people who gave him false promises for his immediate liberty and (the) release of his vessel," he said.

The foreign crew of CRTV, a TV network based in Taiwan, arrived in Cagayan last week to document the plight of Long and his companions, according to Pagulayan.

Some RCIE members, however, said they have second thoughts on allowing Long to undergo medical treatment in Manila.

"Let him recuperate first. The land trip alone from Aparri to Tuguegarao could even worsen his condition," Ma. Eva Antiporda, RCIE presiding officer, said.

Lawyer Domingo Cayosa, a member of an environmentalist group, asked authorities not to allow Long to go to Manila, saying that he was just feigning paralysis and it was "just one of the tricks of the poachers to escape from prosecution." *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



MELVIN GASCON

MILES TO GO

Rest is a luxury for these merchants who lug their products from province to province, walking most of the way. The brave traders had to make a stop under a tree in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya to rest their tired feet.

Pangasinan villagers urge dike to protect them from floodings

SAN MANUEL, Pangasinan—Fearing they would face massive flooding like what they experienced when Typhoon "Feria" struck two weeks ago, residents of Barangay San Vicente here asked the San Roque Project Corp. (SRPC) to build a dike along the Agno River bank.

This came after the SRPC announced plans to quarry sand and gravel in the village for its $1-million San Roque Dam project.

The residents said they fear the quarrying activities would worsen the flooding in their village.

Barangay San Vicente, which is near another quarry area of the San Roque Dam, was submerged under 10-foot floods when Typhoon Feria struck.

Barangay chair Bonomo Apuyod said the flooding could have been caused by the quarrying activities in Barangay Narra. "Because Narra was protected by a dike, water from the Agno River flowed freely into our barangay. If quarrying starts in our barangay, for sure flooding will get worse if there will be another typhoon," Apuyod said.

The SRPC, however, said it was not committed to build dikes along the Agno River bank before engaging in quarry activities, based on the contract between the project proponents and the government.

"The Department of Public Works and Highways and the local governments are responsible for controlling floods in San Manuel," Raymund Cunningham, SRPC project director, said.

"From the technical insights available to us, the San Roque multipurpose dam project had no negative impact on the flooding in San Manuel over the past two seasons but had reduced flooding there instead," he said.

"Flooding in the barangay would have been significantly worse had there been no excavation of sand and gravel for the dam project, he explained."

The dam was designed to irrigate thousands of hectares of farms in the Luzon area and provide additional power to the Luzon grid.

The project became controversial after it was reported that hundreds of tribal people would be displaced as a result of the dam construction. *Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

RP insects seen answer to farm pests

BY VINCENT CABREZA
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—The world can look brightly once more at the agriculture industry after experts obtained proof that the country hosts the indigenous enemies of pests that plague Asia's agriculture.

Ironically, high pesticide use had slowly eroded the insect population in Benguet and the rest of Northern Luzon, which accelerated the leaf miner outbreak last year and destroyed P30 million in potato and vegetable harvests here.

"There is a good possibility that the Philippines can start exporting (cultured) insects to India, Indonesia (or other agricultural countries) now plagued by the leaf miner outbreak. That could be the Philippines' new role (in globalization and international trade)," said Dr. Ravindra Joshi, a senior researcher of the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) and consultant of the Department of Agriculture.

About 10 species of indigenous wasps had been documented here by a special DA task force, which Joshi leads.

These wasps go by the following scientific names: *Asecodes delucchii, Cirrospilus ambiguus, Diglyphus isaea, Hemiptarsenus varicornis, Neochrysocharis formosa, Neochrysocharis okazakii, Pnigalio katonis, Quadrastichus liriomyzae, Opius sp. 1 and Opius sp. 2.*

The government is studying measures to patent these recent discoveries "because the Philippines never realized it had these insects," said Dr. Elizabeth Versola, DA regional director and an entomologist herself.

"It is important that we have control before we start telling the rest of the world we have the solutions to their (pest problems)."

These wasp species have been the natural enemies of four indigenous leaf miner bugs that struck at Benguet's lucrative potato and cabbage industries.

The leaf miner bugs are also indigenous Philippine species: *Liriomyza huidobrensis, Liriomyza trifolii, Liriomyza sativae, and Liriomyza chinensis.*

DA sources said most of the wasps were nearly wiped out by panic-driven farmers, who sprayed enormous amounts of insect repellants, chemical variants and other innovative solutions to attacks from the diamondback moth and the leaf miner bug.

But Carol Gamiao, a biologist who helped draft a 1991 Asian Development Bank report on Benguet agriculture, said the ecological erosion was started in the 1970s when farmers began abusing pesticide use in the province's farms.

Joshi agreed, stressing that the depopulated insects, which prey on pests, also accelerated the population of other destructive insects aside from the leaf miner.

One such pest, which government should brace for, is the mite species that infest rose flowers.

Joshi said government must also understand the psychological trauma created by outbreaks like the leaf miner.

He said about 300 farmers, who were surveyed months after the leaf miner outbreak had been controlled this year, still considered the leaf miner infestation as their biggest problem.

This accounted for the continuous use of pesticides in the region.

Joshi said the government must counter pesticide marketing being bankrolled by corporations. He said the government's best incentives should be the "exportable" good insects.

"The same pesticides killing the leaf miner bugs also wipe out their natural enemies," he said.

Various agencies have discouraged the use of pesticides and urged farmers to resort to organic methods to maintain their farms. *With a report from Lief Volt Pormento, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Pinatubo lake showing overflow signs

BY TONETTE OREJAS
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Water in the crater of Mt. Pinatubo is only five meters below the rim, and with a crack seen on the Maraunot side, Botolan residents in Zambales will have to brace for an imminent lake breakout that could unleash an avalanche of lahar.

This was learned Friday from Senior Supt. Reynaldo Berroya, regional police director and Central Luzon Disaster Coordinating Council chair.

Berroya and marine geologist Kelvin Rodolfo, a native of Zambales, flew over the volcano on Thursday.

Dr. Raymundo Punongbayan, chief of the Philippine Institute of Seismology and Volcanology, confirmed the problems detected by Berroya and Rodolfo.

Water in the 2.5-km wide and 650-meter high lake, which formed after the June 1991 eruptions, rose fast during the past four weeks, especially when Typhoon "Feria" exited via the South China Sea, west of Zambales.

The Phivolcs' monitoring last November measured the water at 11.5 meters below the rim, Punongbayan said.

In the event of an overflow, Punongbayan said the water would head toward the Balin-Baquero River that merges with the Bucao River—all on the Botolan side of the 1,400-meter high volcano.

These rivers immediately drain to the South China Sea on the coast of Zambales, reducing the risk of flooding and lahar flows to Botolan's lowland villages.

The town's upland boundaries are not populated, Punongbayan said.

He said the Phivolcs and a Japanese geologist, who has made previous researches on Indonesia's Kelut Volcano, which also formed in its post-eruption a crater-lake like Pinatubo's, were evaluating the risks of a breakout to residents' lives.

Initial findings showed that the rivers were firm enough to contain water and lahar in the event of a breaching, Punongbayan said.

The possibility of movement of volcanic debris will be less if there is a slow leak of lake water, he said.

He said the Department of Public Works and Highways is evaluating the need to buttress the rim with cement to reduce the chances of a breakout.

Berroya met Zambales Gov. Vicente Magsaysay and Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council officials on Thursday to issue the alert.

Berroya activated lahar watch points in Zambales, usually found unmanned during Rodolfo's visits.

Magsaysay said PDCC personnel were sent Friday to Botolan to relay the warnings.

"The warnings to go to higher grounds (during heavy rains) have been issued. Our equipment for evacuation is ready. Two-way radios have been given to monitoring teams in watch points," Magsaysay told the INQUIRER.

Rodolfo said the Phivolcs' water level gauge has sunk, urging the agency to reinstall another that will help RDCC pilots record the height of accumulated water over a period.

He urged residents to stay vigilant. "It will always be those in the threatened villages who will have to act first," he said.

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INQUIRER Visayas
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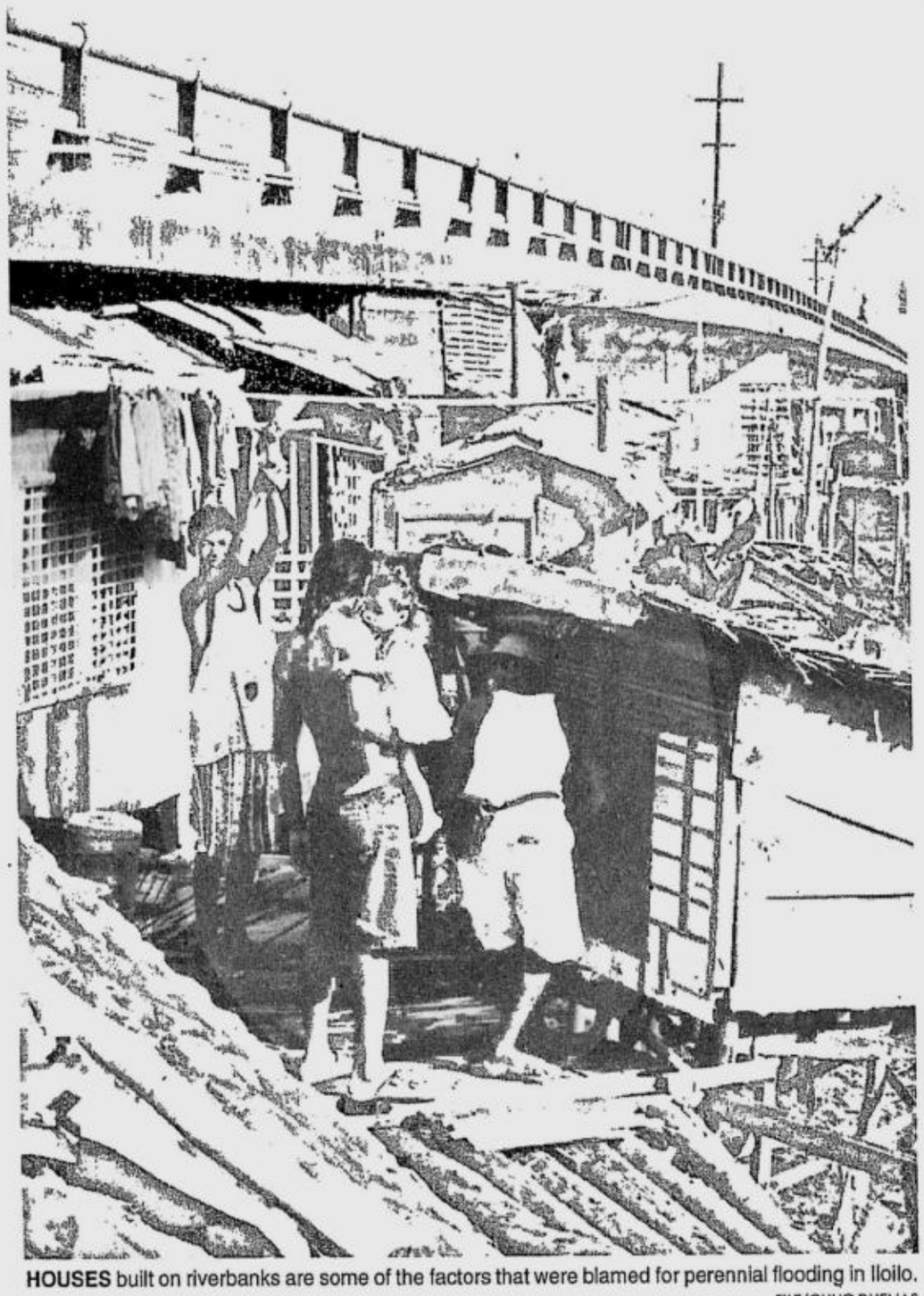
Iloilo floats in flood solutions



HOUSES built on riverbanks are some of the factors that were blamed for perennial flooding in Iloilo.
FILE/GUIJO DUENAS

Debate on flooding invites theories

BY MA. DIOSA LABISTE
Iloilo City

THE CERTAINTY of floods in Iloilo City every time it rains has opened the valves for ideas from various sectors in the city that could never seem to agree on how to stop the flooding.

For government planners at the National Economic and Development Authority, the end to perennial flooding would come in 2004 when the government builds a P6-billion floodway that traverses the plains of Jaro and La Paz districts.

The money for the proposed Iloilo Flood Control Project (IFCP) will come from the 25th Yen loan package from Japan.

But Iloilo City Rep. Raul Gonzalez wants the floodway project scrapped because the government could not afford it financially.

Instead, Gonzalez proposed the widening of the city's Salog River and Ticud Creek, which are natural waterways to the sea, but which are now currently choked by garbage and silt and narrowed by houses precariously perching on their banks.

He also suggested the building of a network of small canals leading to a big one that would drain off floodwaters from the city's age-old sewers.

Government planners expressed belief that communities in low-lying areas would be helped by the multi-billion-peso dike project that was planned as early as 1996.

Many of those that would benefit from the project are subdivisions and industries in Jaro and La Paz districts that are often submerged in water during heavy rains.

Nicolas Rivas of the Neda regional office said the project would push through because the city government has already promised to relocate the 3,435 households that would be displaced by the proposed five-kilometer dike that stretches from Jaro and La Paz districts to the Iloilo Strait.

Social acceptability

A team from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) was in Iloilo City early this month to get the city government's commitment that it would provide relocation sites for families who would be displaced by the project.

Already, the Japanese government spent P161 million for the detailed engineering of the project, said Rivas.

The city government, together with the Department of Public Works and Highways, is completing the Buntatala housing site, one of the several suburban relocation sites for families affected by the proposed project.

The approval of residents of Sooc and Mirasol subdivisions is also needed. Should these communities agree to the project, it would signal the start of construction.

The project's "social acceptability" is a touchy issue, which the Japanese government would not want to get entangled with, said Rivas.

The IFCP is one of the seven infrastructure projects nationwide worth P37.6 billion that have been identified by the DPWH for funding under the 25th Yen Loan Package. The list would be submitted to the JBIC by the end of this month for approval by March next year.

Long-term solutions

But Gonzales said that the Official Development Assistance (ODA) and money borrowed from multilateral lending institutions like the JBIC is normally matched with funds by the Philippine government. He said that with the Macapagal administration's plan to limit the budget deficit to P145 billion, the IFCP project might be shelved.

This was what drives Gonzales to pressure the city government to find less expensive solutions to flooding.

Iloilo environmentalists are more concerned with long-term solutions to flooding like caring for the watershed, which many city residents continue to be indifferent to.

Jessica Salas of the Kahublagan sang Panimalay Foundation, a group that helped rehabilitate the critical Maasin watershed, said that communities along the river banks and other waterways, from the mountains to the city, must do their share by planting trees and getting rid of trash in the water.

If each community would mind its own swath of riverbank, then the overflowing of the banks and the destruction of lives and property would be prevented, said Salas.

Multi-million peso canals

Kahublagan bats for less public work but more people's participation in solving the flood problem. It also suggested some areas that are natural flood plains and catchment basins that should be maintained as such. If a major flood, which comes in a 10 to 50-year cycle, hits the city, the households should be temporarily evacuated to avoid loss of lives.

While the flood debates ebb and flow, the business community could no longer wait.

The SM City Mall, which sits on a flood plain where waters from the Jaro and Mandurriao district drain, built a more than half-a-kilometer long canal to the Iloilo River two years ago.

Robinsons, which would soon open its mall in the city, is constructing a P10-million waterway to ease flooding in its area.

Architect Melvin Lataquin, one of the members of the committee which drafted the city's land use plan, said that no long-term solution can be achieved if each business establishment and subdivision builds its own drainage in the absence of an integrated flood control project of the city government.

Lataquin said a more comprehensive solution is needed in flood-prone Iloilo City, which was once a marshland and a flood plain said to be 18 inches below sea level.

URBAN RENEWAL

Iloilo City takes a glimpse at facelift

BY MA. DIOSA LABISTE
Iloilo City

FOR P60 million, or a fourth of the city government's original budget, a twin-tower Iloilo City Hall can be built and breathe life to the dying downtown area of the city.

Melvin Lataquin, an architect who teaches at the University of San Agustin here, said constructing the city hall on its current site near the Plaza Libertad, and not in the suburban Molo district, is a sensible plan that has already been gaining the support of the public and elected officials.

Lataquin will be presenting to city officials in two weeks his proposed plans for the new city hall on an old site beside the historic Plaza Libertad.

Accompanying the plan will be a random survey of city residents, who reportedly are in favor of building the city hall on the old site rather than in Molo.

The old city hall beside Plaza Libertad was abandoned last year when cracks showed up at the legislative area after a slight tremor. The city councilors and their offices moved to the nearby Mary Mart Mall while other offices transferred elsewhere.

Only the city mayor's office, treasurer's office and a few other departments stayed at the old city hall.

Early this year, preparations for the construction of the P280-million new city hall in Molo began with the completion of the filling and driving of piles of the building's foundation that cost a total of P58 million.

Before the city government will continue to spend more money on the new city hall, Lataquin said he believed city officials should first take a look at his architectural plans for the old site.

Glass towers

Lataquin's proposed building is a six-story twin glass tower joined by an elevator shaft. Glass curtains and steel beams will be used and construction time will be six months for each tower, he said.

It will be well lighted and will conform to the city's building and fire codes, which the current city hall building has violated because it lacks ventilation and fire escape.

Lataquin said he is ready to submit his design to a team that will pick the best designs should city officials be convinced to reconsider and construct the new city hall on its current site.

The arguments for the retention of the old site were many, among them was that the move would save at least 64 percent in construction cost. First, it is accessible to all jeepneys coming from many districts of the city.

Second, the place has a historical value because it was once the office of the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation, the forerunner of the Development Bank of the Philippines that rebuilt the city from ruins after World War II.

Third, it would help revive the central business district along J.M. Basa and Iznart Streets that have been pallid since malls have opened their doors in the city.

Shoppers have been moving to well-lighted and air-conditioned department stores, the reason why the old shops in the downtown area no longer enjoy brisk business.

> 'Iloilo's claim to fame is its old buildings, houses and churches. Only the sense of community of Ilonggos could save these structures and give them a much-needed facelift . . .'

Decaying heritage sites

Historians and architects here said that unless the city government arrests the decay of the downtown area, the place noted for its buildings with quaint architecture would soon become a retail slum.

Visiting architects and scholars said last year that Iloilo City has failed to arrest the decay of its heritage sites, among them the quaint old buildings along J.M. Basa and Iznart Streets.

Fernando Zialcita, chair of sociology and anthropology of Ateneo de Manila, said Iloilo is among the few places in the country where there are still a number of places that are worth preserving because they are "heritage structures" that represent certain periods of local history.

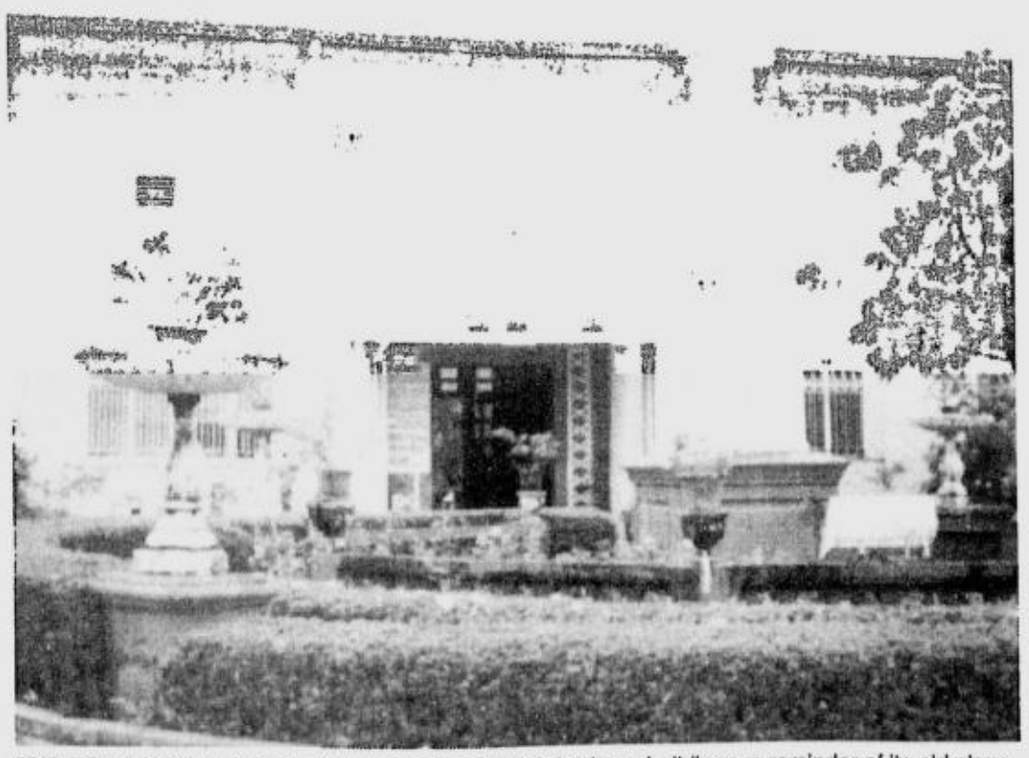
"Iloilo's claim to fame is its old buildings, houses and churches. Only the sense of community of Ilonggos could save these structures and give them a much-needed facelift," said Zafiro Ledesma Jr. of the Museo Iloilo and a member of the Iloilo City Cultural Heritage Conservation Council.

"By building a city hall (on) the old site, the city government would be helping many people, mostly small entrepreneurs who cannot compete with giant retailers," said Lataquin.

Among those who were receptive to Lataquin's idea were Vice Mayor Victor Facultad, Councilors Raul Gonzalez Jr., Ramon Cua-Locsin, Ed Peñaredondo and Ma. Rita Bascos Sarabia, and treasurer Romeo Manikan.

Lataquin is confident that the new set of city councilors would give him their nod.

Lataquin is also trying to convince Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Treñas, banking on the mayor's interest for urban renewal, an issue he has included in his platform of government when he was still campaigning for the mayoral post.



THE ASILO de Molo, built in 1912, was one of Iloilo's heritage buildings, a reminder of its old glory.
HAZEL VILLA

Off to a good start

ECHOES FROM LEYTE

Loly Perez Isiderio

HERE in Leyte we had relatively peaceful elections and are off to a fairly good start. Perhaps we can look forward to a reasonably productive three years.

To begin with, Congressman Ted Failon, our new representative for the first district of Leyte that includes the capital Tacloban City, being indeed a media icon, is proving his true worth. He has wasted no time getting down to work. He also knows the value of keeping us informed.

In the first week of July, Failon informed us that he is a member of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Transportation and Communications. This should be a great help when he works for the redevelopment of the existing Tacloban City Airport, something that has been in the works since 1991.

This project, which is part of the yen loan agreement signed by our government and Japan, seeks to improve about six airports in the country and includes the Tacloban airport as the growth center of Region 8 (Eastern Visayas).

The P3.8-billion redevelopment work at the Tacloban Airport is scheduled to start construction in the first quarter of 2003. In the meantime, the government, through the Department of Transportation and Communications, will start immediately a P60-million project to improve the airport.

On Wednesday, July 11, we received news that Failon filed a joint resolution (House Joint Resolution No. 01) to boost the coconut industry.

Failon said coconut farming is the main source of income in many parts of the country. Poverty is most widespread in provinces where coconut farming is the main source of income and Failon knows that his constituents in the first district of Leyte are dependent on copra for their livelihood.

Indeed, we have high hopes for our congressman who, we are assured, does his homework well.

Third term and therefore "graduating" Leyte Gov. Remedios Petilla apparently expects to fulfill her vision to the fullest.

Before leaving for Saipan to attend an international trade exposition in that country, she assured us that she is pushing through her flagship projects, notably the Leyte Sab-a Basin Development that hopes to convert the area into the "food basket" of Leyte. The construction and development of the Babatngon Port is also expected.

Meanwhile, the economy of Eastern Visayas is surviving the economic crisis through small and medium enterprises. This was revealed by Desiderio Villas, director of the Leyte Department of Trade and Industry.

Although there is a slight decline in income from SMEs this year, Villas said help would be provided to make these SMEs cope with the economic crunch.

The DTI will have more skills/technology training and marketing assistance for small entrepreneurs.

In the long haul, however, we have to look to our tourism industry to help Leyte and Samar survive the economic crunch. The two provinces were also among those tagged as an alternative destination to other tourism areas that are not feasible these days.

Tourism Regional Director Norma Morantte told me that she was with Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon in Palawan just before the Dos Palmas incident. At this time, Region 8 had been identified as an alternative tourist destination, especially the two provinces of Leyte and Samar.

Here she met Nadine Mertens, a Belgian tourism photojournalist for the Liberty Channels Global Tourism System.

Ms Mertens knows that the great tourist destinations in Europe—Italy, Vienna, Paris and even the United Kingdom—Palestine, Jerusalem, and others are not 100 percent free from security risks.

But they never lose their tourist visitors. The tourists still travel to the destinations they would like to visit. "Tourism is image," Ms Morantte tells me, and on this we can plan our other destinations.

We must recreate our image as a tourist destination, or, rather shift to other areas and stress the beauty of these destinations.

Our assets are numberless: seascapes, landscapes, natural beauties, waterfalls and hot springs. Our historical sites are still there and we have a market that will continue to come for cultural and historical reasons.

Japanese tourists will come to visit the battle areas of World War II and venerate over and over the hallowed grounds where their ancestors fought and died.

When I arrived in Ms Morantte's office, she was online with a friend from abroad who was asking her to prepare for a booking of about 300 tourists who plan to come in October. This was a happy day. And she recalled an incident in 1994 when we were celebrating the 50th anniversary of the historic Leyte Landing.

"There I was," she recounted, "waving my hands as we stood on the shores of Red Beach, explaining what took place there fifty years before. I felt so proud of myself, noting that an elderly man behind me was listening so intently. After a while, I turned to him and respectfully asked if he had any question or comment. And you know, Loly . . . I had goose bumps . . . when the old man quietly replied, 'So, I am standing on hallowed ground.'"

Ex-Palace official: Mike accepted bribes

(From page A1)

"I also learned that they received a large amount of money but the President did not rescind her veto, that is why they needed a scapegoat," Rodrigo claimed.

She did not specify any amounts.

"I did not approve of their plan. That is why they made me a scapegoat and I resigned," she said, referring to Arroyo and his supposed partners.

Rodrigo was talking about a proposed telecommunications franchise to a company registered as Philippine Communications Clearing House Inc., according to Transportation and Communications Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez.

The bill would have granted the company a franchise to construct, install, establish, operate and maintain a wire and/or wireless telecommunications system throughout the Philippines.

The deal would require all telecommunications companies in the country to pass through the system to interconnect among themselves. Telecommunications operators would have to pay the clearing house certain toll fees.

The clearing house would be the only entity to profit from such an arrangement, Alvarez said.

"The bill seeking this franchise, filed July 24, 2000, was vetoed either last month or two months ago. Both the NTC (National Telecommunications Commission) and I pushed for this to be vetoed because this would put the telecommunications industry in disarray," Alvarez told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Ownership unclear

Telecom operators "would have to pay the government a certain amount, but it would only be minimal. The profit will mostly go to just the clearing house," he added.

MIKE ARROYO: The accuser is accused.

All telecommunications franchises need congressional approval.

President Macapagal vetoed the bill granting the franchise on April 18, and subsequently ignored an official request to recall the veto.

The name of businessman Jaime Dichaves, the close friend of former President Joseph Estrada who claimed to be the real "Jose Velarde," Estrada's alleged alias for keeping secret bank accounts, came into the picture as the owner of the clearing house.

But Alvarez said the company is owned by a certain Pacifico Marcelo, a friend of Dichaves. "Dichaves could have used Marcelo as a dummy, I'm not sure. We can't really be certain," Alvarez said.

Provoked

Rodrigo said she had nothing to do with the franchise deal.

But she admitted that as appointments secretary, she once accompanied a woman named Malou Nuñez to the office of the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office headed by Gabriel Claudio.

During that visit, Nuñez inquired about the status of the recall request for the veto, Rodrigo said.

In the radio interview, Rodrigo said that she had not planned to talk about the deal in public, but was provoked to speak up when Mike Arroyo went on radio earlier this month alleging that a resigned Palace secretary accepted money in connection with the deal.

She also said that her radio interview would be her only response to the media on the subject, as she would refer any future statements to her lawyers.

Text messages

For his part, Arroyo yesterday continued to maintain, without naming names, that a former Malacañang secretary had accepted bribe money in connection with the deal being pushed by the Dichaves firm.

He said that he had started to receive text messages alleging that he had a hand in the deal after Rodrigo resigned, and denied having anything to do with the deal.

"Our information was that she received money," he said in Filipino. "When the franchise was repealed, of course, she was embarrassed, since she had already accepted the money."

The President dismissed the allegations against her husband during a press conference yesterday.

"If he had received money, he would have tried to convince me. But he never tried to convince me to recall the veto," Ms Macapagal said.

Alvarez said he did not believe that Arroyo took any bribes to intervene on behalf of Philippine Communications Clearing House Inc.

Ms Macapagal added that Rodrigo had resigned saying that she needed to take care of her daughter.

THE GONZALESES: 'One Sweet Day'

'I'll never know . . .

(From page A1)

No tears fell on his face but he expressed his sorrow telling how, as a 10-year-old, he was plucked by his father from the debris of a hotel in Baguio City that was devastated by the earthquake in 1991.

"In the darkness, surrounded by concrete, the earth still shaking, debris falling, all I could call was Papa, Papa," he said in a eulogy.

"He was outside making sure that everyone was safe. When he realized that I was still inside, he ran back to the building and squeezed himself through a crack in the wall."

"He was in deep pain and his life was in danger. Still he crawled to me and pulled me out," Sef said.

Sef sat on front the pew, his eyes on the coffins.

Many times, he bowed then buried his face in his hands. He was seated beside his uncle Joseph Claridades and auntie, Annie Paraan.

Mrs. Eli Claridades, the frail mother of Mary Loiva, was solemn. So were the rest of the relatives of the Gonzaleses and the Claridades.

Favorite verse

Clodine's friend, Liza Carroll, recited one of Clodine's favorite verses.

"When someone is born, someone dies; when someone laughs, someone cries; if you love someone let them know, for they may leave tomorrow."

Clodine's schoolmates from Blacktown's High School also came, occupying a whole row of seats in the church.

Fr. Rex Curry, in his homily, admitted that he had yet to understand "why such a horrific tragedy should occur."

Eight other chaplains in Sydney, two of them Filipino priests, joined Curry in officiating Mass.

As Teddy, Mary and Clodine were buried, police have yet to find out the motive for the brutal slaying and the killer or killers.

Only members of the family witnessed the burial at Macquarie Park cemetery here.

Sef's carries coffin

Sef carried his father's coffin, assisted by his uncles and friends.

Teddy's older sister, Annie Gonzales-Tesoro, said they would leave the case to Australian authorities.

"As we have seen so far, they are competent and we have full trust and confidence in them," Tesoro said in behalf of the family.

She said she would go back to the Philippines soon with the hope that "God will help the police find the killer."

Tesoro said the family would like to express their gratitude to the Australian Embassy in Manila, including Australian immigration authorities, who assisted them in their days of mourning.

Today, in Baguio City, flowers will be offered in memory of Teddy, Mary and Clodine by their Baguio-based friends and relatives.

An emissary of the Gonzales clan said the family had decided not to grant further interviews regarding the killings.

"The family members want to grieve in peace, and they do not want to fuel anymore speculations about the deaths. When they return home after the funeral, they will want media to stay away," she said.

In Manila, the Australian Embassy approved the plan of Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona to send a team of Filipino investigators to Sydney.

NBI team off to Sydney

At least two investigators from the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) will travel to the Australian city next week to assist in the week-old investigation, an official of the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

Lawyer Antonio Curameng, head of the DFA consular affairs division, said the NBI personnel would act as "observers" and report to Philippine authorities any progress on the investigation.

In a meeting with Australian Ambassador John Buckley early this week, Guingona broached the idea of sending a team of Filipino investigators to Sydney to help detectives handling the case.

Curameng said that sending NBI people to Sydney did not mean that authorities were zeroing in on the angle that a Filipino client of Teddy had a hand in the killings.

A friend of Teddy had earlier come forward and claimed that the immigration lawyer had a heated argument with a Filipino on the phone over a property amounting to millions of dollars, prior to the killings.

In Malacañang, President Macapagal-Arroyo said Rickson Chiong, an NBI regional director, would lead the NBI team.

"We do not intend to interfere in the work of the New South Wales police because we have confidence in their capability," the President said in Filipino. *With reports from TJ Burgonio, Martin Marfil in Manila and Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Militants say cuts in oil prices peanuts

(From page A1)

terday followed Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp.'s 20-centavo cut in the price of gasoline and 15-centavo reduction in the prices of diesel and kerosene.

"Let's hope that world crude prices continue to go down and the peso continues to rise so we could make further price cuts," Caltex spokesperson Marian Catedral said.

The price cuts caught businessman Raul T. Concepcion by surprise.

"I was expecting a rollback on the third week of August because (the oil firms) were supposed to implement another increase this month, which they called off due to the trend in crude prices," said Concepcion, chair of the Consumer and Oil Price Watch.

The price cuts came after the peso's fall against the dollar was arrested the past few days.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Department of Finance had admitted to propping up the currency.

Traders at the Philippine Dealing System said that the central bank was propping up the peso in time for the President's Sona.

A Pilipinas Shell official denied that the price cuts will help improve the President's image.

The oil firm based the new prices on the current oil cost of $23.53 per barrel and an exchange rate of P53.15 against the US dollar.

"The decrease in our product prices is mainly a response to competitive pressures in a deregulated market," Virginia A. Ruivivar, Petron corporate communications manager, said in a statement.

Ruivivar said the sustainability of the new price levels would largely depend on the movement of crude prices and peso-dollar rate.

Opec's production

She said there were indications that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries would cut production by as much as 500,000 barrels a day before September to keep crude prices within the $22 to $28 per barrel range.

"The reduction would again exert upward pressure on oil prices, which could coincide with the annual buildup of inventories in preparation for the winter," Ruivivar said.

The latest round of price rollbacks follows two series of rate increases early this year. The last time oil firms raised their prices was in the first week of July.

The only time that oil companies reduced prices of petroleum products this year was on Jan. 8 due to falling world crude prices and a relatively stable foreign exchange rate.

More oil price cuts in the future should augur well for the country's inflation outlook.

Earlier, the central bank expressed concern over the impact of higher energy prices on inflation, contributing to the bank's current policy of holding back on further cuts to its key policy rates.

P20-B profit

Corpuz said that Pilipinas Shell, Caltex Philippines and Petron had raked in P20 billion in profits and that these firms were involved in an P8-billion tax credit scam.

Corpuz said the token price reductions would not weaken the fervor of protesters who are taking to the streets on Monday.

FIRST MONTHLY DRAW
(JUNE 29, 2001)
LIST OF WINNERS

KUWARTA SA LABADA

First Prize
₱100,000
GLENDA MYRA GAMBOA MONTAÑO
840 Cabatuan St., Barrio San Jose, Caloocan City 1400

Second Prize
₱50,000
NELFA PANGILINAN
Ritz Tower 903 B., 6745 Ayala Ave., Makati City 1200

Third Prize
₱25,000
ALIENTO AAR. VADIL
15 Robertito St., Balintawak, Caloocan City

FUN 'N PRIZE

First Prize
₱100,000
JULIETA OLIVAR
Agora Mambato, Lapasan, Cagayan de Oro City

Second Prize
₱50,000
ROSALINDA PITOGO
77-S Lorega Lauis St., Cebu City

Third Prize
₱25,000
MARILOU M. TAMA'AO
12 Purok 17 Irisan, Baguio City

Ngiting Unique Unique Unique Ngiting Panalo

First Prize
₱100,000
EMPERATRIZ B. LLABORE
98 X'ville Ave., X'ville Subd., Loyola Heights, Quezon City 1108

Second Prize
₱50,000
MA. TERESA P. BAYKER
2217 Int. 383 T. Earnshaw St., Gagalangin, Tondo, Manila

Third Prize
₱25,000
DAISY OFIAZA
418 Bonuan Gueset, Dagupan City 2400 Pangasinan

Sali na at baka ikaw ang isa sa tatlong magiging milyonaryo!
Abangan ang second monthly draw sa July 27, 2001.

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BRITISH OPEN

Montgomerie by a shot

MONTGOMERIE: Dying to win the British Open. AP

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England—Colin Montgomerie watched, putter in hand on the 14th green, as Fred Couples waged a personal battle with the sand deep inside a greenside bunker.

Couples swiped at his half-buried ball left-handed, then hit it backward. A third shot tried to climb up the sodded wall, only to cruelly fall back in the sand.

By the time he finally got it out, a good round had gone bad. It was drama so good that an engrossed Montgomerie promptly went and 3-putted himself, almost as if in sympathy.

"I think I lost a bit of concentration watching him," Montgomerie said.

It was the only lapse of the day for Montgomerie, which may be surprising considering his checkered past in the British Open.

Montgomerie shot a 65 for a three-shot lead, while Jeff Maggert sunk a 6-iron from 182 meters (200 yards) for a rare double eagle on the par-5 sixth. After three bogeys in a row, Phil Mickelson had back-to-back eagles on the front nine and a new professional from Finland named Mikko Ilonen managed a 69.

Montgomerie, who at the age of 38 is running out of chances to win his first major championship, can only hope he has it for another three days as he chases the title he covets most.

What was even more surprising was how the links of Royal Lytham & St. Annes proved so accommodating in its first major test in five years.

Sure, Couples took four to get out of a trap. And Jim Furyk spent 10 strokes trying to get through the rough and sand on the 11th hole.

But with the weather suddenly calm, so was Royal Lytham. The opening round was notable for how well it was played, not for how many disasters occurred.

That was better than Tiger Woods, who had an even par 71 that might have been a lot worse on another day in another wind.

After missing the cut in five of the last nine Opens, Montgomerie came out with lowered expectations and ended up with an even lower score.

"The whole psyche of the championship changes now for me," Montgomerie said.

It figures to take more than that if the winds stay in check and the fairways and greens don't dry out.

That was the case Thursday as the field averaged a respectable 73.1 strokes and 33 players broke par. Yes, there were 75 double bogeys on the day and 12 dreaded others, but for the most part Royal Lytham was as playable as it gets. *AP*

British Open Scores

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England—Scores Thursday from the $4.62 million British Open, played at the 6,284-meter (6,905-yard), par-71 Royal Lytham & St. Annes Golf Club:

First Round

Colin Montgomerie, Scotland	30-35-65
Brad Faxon, United States	32-36-68
Chris Dimarco, United States	34-34-68
Mikko Ilonen, Finland	32-36-68
Justin Rose, England	33-36-69
Miguel Angel Jimenez, Spain	36-33-69
Paul McGinley, Ireland	35-34-69
JP Hayes, United States	33-36-69
David Duval, United States	34-35-69
Jose Maria Olazabal, Spain	32-37-69
Stuart Appleby, Australia	33-36-69
Pierre Fulke, Sweden	32-37-69
Billy Andrade, United States	35-34-69
Alexandre Balicki, France	34-35-69
Niclas Fasth, Sweden	34-35-69
Alex Cejka, Germany	34-35-69
Jesper Parnevik, Sweden	33-36-69
Billy Mayfair, United States	33-36-69
Greg Owen, England	33-36-69
Joe Ogilvie, United States	33-36-69
Mark O'Meara, United States	34-36-70
Darren Clarke, Northern Ireland	36-34-70
Gordon Brand Jr., Scotland	35-35-70
a-David Dixon, England	33-37-70
Eduardo Romero, Argentina	33-37-70
Phil Mickelson, United States	33-37-70
Barry Lane, England	34-36-70
Loren Roberts, United States	34-36-70
Vijay Singh, Fiji	33-37-70
Rory Sabbatini, United States	33-37-70
Sergio Garcia, Spain	34-36-70
Duffy Waldorf, United States	34-36-70
Mark McNulty, Zimbabwe	34-36-70
Carlos Franco, Paraguay	33-38-71
Steve Stricker, United States	35-36-71
Ernie Els, South Africa	36-35-71
Bernhard Langer, Germany	36-35-71
Tiger Woods, United States	35-36-71
Michael Campbell, New Zealand	34-37-71
Fred Couples, United States	33-38-71

'Possessed by demons'

BY DENNIS U. EROA

LIPA

IF GIVEN the choice, I would skip every opportunity to interview Joe Lipa. I find him an eternal eccentric, if not a difficult person to deal with.

Unlike other coaches (FEU's Koy Banal, La Salle's Franz Pumaren, UE's Boysie Zamar, UST's Aric del Rosario and NU's Manny Dandan), Lipa is more known for his volcanic temper than his lack of proper decorum. His habit of refusing to shake hands with his adversaries is equal to the legend of his disrespect for Ateneo's school hymn while it is being sung after the final buzzer.

While Banal, Pumaren, Zamar, Del Rosario and Dandan would relish exchanging ideas with scribes as though it were a privilege to them talking to sportswriters, Lipa, the most senior among the UAAP coaches, gives short answers and appears always in a hurry to end interviews. Fact is, Lipa has never given the UAAP Press Corps the courtesy of post-game interviews since taking over the Ateneo coaching chores two years ago.

But never did I begrudge him for that. His is a life only he can master.

When my boss Al S. Mendoza told me last Thursday to get Lipa's side regarding reports he was going to be sacked as Ateneo coach if he loses one of his next two games (against NU and FEU), what I got instead—horror of horrors!—was the rudest treatment I ever got from a basketball coach in my 15 years as a professional sportswriter.

This was what happened.

I offered my hand to Lipa by way of congratulating him for having steered the Blue Eagles to a 68-60 win over the NU Bulldogs on their way to the dugout.

He refused my handshake.

"What's the problem?" I said.

Lipa, probably not less than 20 years my senior, next acted like a man possessed by demons. He challenged me to a fight outside the gym in full view of players, team officials, fellow sportswriters and kibitzers.

The outburst was uncalled for as he had dishonored the honorable men and women of Ateneo, many of whom are my friends. He trampled on the hallowed court of the Loyola Gym, scene of many victories by the Blue Eagles.

I didn't call Lipa's challenge as that would have dignified a man known more for his adherence to irrationality than reason. Besides, I haven't forgotten the advice of my late mother, an elementary school teacher for more than 30 years: "Come what may, respect your elders, son."

UAAP Today

2 p.m.—UST vs Adamson
4 p.m.—La Salle vs UE

PBA Results

Tanduay 88, Pop Cola 82
Mobiline 71, Shell 56

Game Tomorrow (Araneta Coliseum)

6:15 p.m.—Veterans vs RSJ

La'O C'lubang leader

COOKIE La'O sizzled with rounds of 73 and 67 to lead bosom buddy Angelo Que by three strokes halfway through the Canlubang leg of the Titleist-Footjoy National amateur golf circuit.

La'O's 140 aggregate at the north course at Canlubang North sent him three shots clear of back-to-back national amateur champ Que, who led the first round with a 73 but struggled with a 70 the next day.

Jerome Delariarte, fresh from contending for the crown against the pros in the CAP-Legends Classic, made it a show of Southwoods players as he stayed within striking distance with a 74-71 to be five behind at 145.

Carmelette Villaroman paced the ladies division with a 72, four ahead of Lina de Guzman and six up on Lucy Landicho and Ruby Chico-Walker in the tournament conducted by the National Golf Association of the Philippines with the support of Titleist and Footjoy through Dynamic Sports and Leisure Corp. and Chris T Sports outlets.

Meanwhile, Gerald Katigbak and Jose Miguel Manolo captured the Group II and III divisions while M. Alfonso bagged the low gross plum. Katigbak netted 137 to beat Bong Santos by one while Manolo coasted to a seven-stroke victory over Mike Mendoza with his 129. Alfonso's 153 was good enough to put him far ahead of the pack.

Agojo misses crucial putts, finishes 4th in World Jrs

SAN DIEGO, California—Jayvee Agojo missed short putts yesterday on her last two holes and blew her chance to win the girls 13-14 crown in the World Junior Golf championship here.

The 14-year-old Agojo flubbed a lead-tying three-footer on the 17th before completely falling apart by missing a 1-1/2 feet putt on the 18th.

The tap-in on 18 rimmed out to the horror of a Filipino crowd watching from greenside of Oak Glen course of Singing Hills.

The collapse relegated the sophomore at OB Montgessori-Greenhills from a sure second to fourth overall.

Agojo finished with a three-over par 75 for 219 and actually tied for third Sondia Gogue of Nevada behind champion Natalia Jimenez of Colombia and runner-up Jennie Lee of California.

But Agojo lost it in the backnine countback.

Ago consoled herself by posting the country's best finish in three years in the event where Filipinos used to produce division champions almost yearly.

Their stint this year was sponsored by Northwest Airlines, Adidas, Taylor Made and the Philippine Sports Commission.

The other RP bets also didn't fare too well.

Jobim Carlos placed 21st out of the 28 entries who survived the cut in the boys 8 years and under at Presidio Hills; Tonton Asistio checked in 34th out of 37 in the boys 11-12 at Lawrence Welk and Nonoy Negrido wound up 49th out of 55 in the boys 13-14 at Steel Canyon. Carlos shot a 63 for 183, Asistio a 69 for 199 and Negrido a 78 for 231.

All the RP entries in both the boys and girls 15-17 at Torrey Pines failed to make it to the final round.

Artemio Murakami had a 78 for 229 while Keenan Ugarte tallied 83-240 and Don Padilla made 87-255 in the boys side where the cut was pegged at 223 while Katrina Gonzalez (80-246) and Mary Grace Cruz (88-255) were far off the 232 qualifying score.

Ramos leads big field

FORMER President Ramos leads the big field that includes bigwigs of the country's top corporations and members of the diplomatic corps in the FVR-RPDEV Cup, which fires off today at Eagle Ridge's Aoki. Close to 150 players are competing in the 18-hole event, being held as part of the Ramos Peace and Development Foundation (RPDEV) fellowship and fund-raising tournament for friends and supporters.

LBC Batangas grabs MBA lead

Team Standings:

LBC Batangas	7	2
Negros	9	3
*Andok's San Juan	7	3
Cebuana Lhuillier	8	4
*FedEx Laguna	4	5
Nueva Ecija	2	7
Davao	2	8
Socsargen	2	9

Games Sunday (La Salle Lipa)
3 p.m.—Davao vs FedEx Laguna
5:30 p.m.—Negros vs LBC Batangas

STA. CRUZ, Laguna—LBC Batangas shook off a slow start to clip the Davao Eagles, 92-80, and seize the lead in the Metropolitan Basketball Association First Phase Friday at the San Luis gym here.

The Blades, down by 9 in the second quarter, hiked their win-loss record to 7-2, enough to dislodge Negros Slashers (9-3) from the top spot of the standings.

The Eagles slipped to 2-8 and need to sweep their last four games to keep their hopes for a slot in the Magic Five alive.

Romel Adducul drilled in 16 points and hauled down 13 rebounds as the Blades extended their win streak to four.

"This is a big win for us as it propped us for the big game against Negros on Sunday," said coach Nash Racela.

The Blades, after allowing the Eagles to control the tempo in the first half, detonated a 23-6 bomb at the start of the third to erase a three-point deficit and erect a 65-53 lead.

Chariot stops Dazz

CEBU CITY—Chariot Skygo stepped up on defense to stop a gritty Dazz Greasebusters crew, 85-75, for a 3-1 card in the Cebu basketball league Commissioner's Cup at the Cebu Coliseum. Earlier, ML Kwarta Padala humiliated Osaka Iridology, 81-68, to finally barge into the win column.

Letran College guns for 3rd straight victory

Games Today
(Rizal Memorial Coliseum)
12 nn—UPHR vs Letran (jrs/srs)
3 p.m.—Mapua vs Benilde (jrs/srs)

LETRAN College shoots for its third straight victory while defending titlist College of St. Benilde tries to recover lost ground today in the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Leaning on the exploits of rookie Ismael Junio, the Knights take the floor at 1:30 p.m. opposite the University of Perpetual Help-Rizal Altas, who are trapped in a five-way tie at 1-2 following two successive setbacks.

Armed with a mean high-arching jumper, the 6-foot Juinio averaged no less than 30 points in the Knights' twin victories over host Philippine Christian University and San Beda College to earn a 2-1 card.

In contrast, the Altas are coming off from two successive setbacks inflicted by San Sebastian College and Jose Rizal University as PBL superstars Chester Tolomia and Gilbert Malabanan failed to gather enough support from their teammates. *June Navarro*

Spring Oil beats PMI

Games Today
3 p.m.—PMI vs Konica (Nueva)
4:30 p.m.—Army vs Wang's
6 p.m.—Mighty Tobacco vs MMC

NATIONAL shooter Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla's Spring Cooking Oil waxed hot from start to finish to crush reigning Cusa champion PMI, 90-57, and maintain its solo lead in the 3rd Spiceland-NBC Danny Espiritu Cup basketball tournament Thursday at the Makati Coliseum.

Mar Reyes fired 31 points to power Coach Tito Palma's Spring cagers to their third straight win in the tourney sponsored by Pisong Asin, Spring Margarine, Tanduay Distillery, Red Bull, SMB, Ginebra San Miguel, Mobiline, Sta. Lucia Realty, Purefoods, Pop Cola and FedEx and supported by Milo.

It's trading time

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao

MORE than 150 players are up for grabs in the NBA free-agent race which officially began July 18, with the lifting of the moratorium on player signings and trades.

This year's crop is thin at the top and, generally, many of the marginals are not expected to find work in the league next campaign and majority of the marquee names are past their prime and likely to remain with their current clubs.

Fact is, a number of topnotch free agents have already agreed to re-sign with their old teams.

Philadelphia will have a couple of key players from its 2001 NBA runner-up unit back, inking All-Star center Dikembe Mutombo, the NBA Defensive Player of the Year, to a five-year renewal worth more than $13 million per season with annual 12.5 percent raises and a 15 percent trade kicker.

Aaron McKie, the league's Sixth Man Award winner, was signed to a seven-year pact worth $38 million, plus incentives that could bring it to $42 million.

The 76ers, though, may have lost reserve center Todd MacCulloch to the New Jersey Nets, who signed the 7-foot Canadian to a six-year, $35-million offer sheet. Philly actually has 15 days to match the offer to MacCulloch, a restricted free agent, but is not likely to do so to avoid the dreaded dollar-for-dollar luxury tax that a team is obligated to pay to the NBA if its player payroll exceeds 61.1 percent of basketball-related income. Megabuck deals with Mutombo and McKie have put MacCulloch's status in question.

The LA Lakers, who defeated the 76ers, 4-1, in this year's NBA Finals to retain their NBA crown, have lost pesky backup guard Tyrone Lue to the Washington Wizards.

The Wizards gave the 6-foot free agent, who gave NBA MVP Allen Iverson some defensive fits during the 2001 NBA Finals, a two-year pact.

In a bid to shore up their backcourt, which has been weakened by the impending retirement of veteran Ron Harper, the foot surgery by Derek Fisher and the uncertain status of Brian Shaw (whose contract is not fully guaranteed until December), the Lakers signed Mitch Richmond with a one-year deal at the 13-year NBA veteran's mininum salary of $1 million.

The 6-5 Richmond became available after Washington bought out the final two years of Richmond's four-year, $40-million contract with the Wizards for $10 million.

BASEBALL RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	55	39	.590	–
Boston	55	40	.579	1
Toronto	45	51	.469	11 1/2
Baltimore	41	53	.435	14 1/2
Tampa Bay	30	66	.312	26 1/2
Central				
Minnesota	58	37	.610	–
Cleveland	54	39	.581	3
Chicago	46	47	.495	11
Detroit	42	51	.452	15
Kansas City	37	58	.389	21
West				
Seattle	68	27	.716	–
Oakland	50	45	.526	18
Anaheim	47	48	.495	21
Texas	39	55	.415	28 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	54	41	.568	–
Philadelphia	52	43	.547	2
Florida	49	47	.510	5 1/2
New York	44	53	.454	11
Montreal	42	54	.438	12 1/2
Central				
Chicago	55	39	.585	–
Houston	52	42	.553	3
St. Louis	48	46	.511	7
Milwaukee	43	51	.457	12
Pittsburgh	36	58	.383	19
Cincinnati	35	60	.368	20 1/2
West				
Arizona	55	40	.579	–
Los Angeles	54	42	.562	1 1/2
San Francisco	51	45	.531	4 1/2
San Diego	45	51	.469	10 1/2
Colorado	40	55	.421	15

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Anaheim 2, Tampa Bay 1; Toronto 4, Boston 3; Detroit 11, N.Y. Yankees 2; Minnesota 12, Oakland 10; Kansas City 6, Seattle 3; Cleveland 10, Chicago White Sox 3; Texas at Baltimore, ppd, hazardous conditions, 1st game; Texas at Baltimore, ppd, hazardous conditions, 2nd game.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Florida 8, N.Y. Mets 3; Atlanta 2, Cincinnati 1; Montreal 5, Philadelphia 2; Arizona 3, San Diego 0, cont. of susp. Game; San Diego 8, Arizona 4; St. Louis 4, Houston 1; Los Angeles 8, Milwaukee 6; Pittsburgh 3, Chicago Cubs 2; San Francisco 2, Colorado 1. *AP*

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO
BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. King Size 2. Perfect Diamond 3. Ahead of Time 4. Jellbeanjoy
Race 2—1. King Aldrin 2. Gambatte 3. Strong Alphonse
Race 3—1. Winter's Fury 2. D Contractor 3. Premiere Treasure 4. Vinfa's Pride
Race 4—1. Angela's Storm 2. Sun Bride 3. Without Sin 4. Something Silver
Race 5—1. Sky Hawk/Sonata 2. District Three 3. Project Genesis
Race 6—1. Top Bullet 2. Chief Navigator 3. Tumataginting 4. Solany Belle
Race 7—1. Sparkling Sky 2. Regalberto 3. Bidang Bida 4. Divine Magic
Race 8—1. Batang Pier 2. Lucky Gambit 3. Shuttle's Rianne 4. Maniaman
Race 9—1. May's Magic 2. Perfect Gift 3. Heavy Metal
Race 10—1. Altron 2. Don't Worry 3. Noble Heart 4. King Ram
Race 11—1. Ringer Kid 2. Majestic Ruler 3. Dynamite Jack 4. Bardagul
Race 12—1. Filthy Rich 2. Modulo Queen 3. Caton 4. Peewee
Race 13—1. Baby Maxxine 2. D Pen Traveller 3. Kamahalan 4. Friendly Lover

Marquez, Adora dance champs

THE VETERAN dancing pair of Genice "Bong" Marquez and Belinda Adora won the amateur Latin category to lead the winners of the recent 5th Mid-year Ranking and Competition for the Alaxan Cup at the jampacked Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

Held under the auspices of the Dance Sport Council of the Philippines headed by Becky Garcia, the Marquez-Adora tandem stamped its class over a star-studded field, beating finalists Jojo Calo and Ednah Ledesma, Richard Obong-Badette Obordo, Bong Soriano-Ana Palma, Ronnie Vergara-Ching Temporosa and Eric Labita-Arlene Afable.

Marquez and Adora will represent the Philippines in the World Games in Akita, Japan, next month.

Not to be outshone, young but battle-tested Reynier Mercado and Judith Melencio topped the junior standard and junior Latin divisions, nosing out the Nico-Aliana Corado pair and John Erolle Melencio-Krystel Tadeo, respectively.

The year's biggest dance competition featured renowned foreign adjudicators and was sponsored by Doctor Trusted Alaxan, Philippine Sports Commission, Philippine Olympic Committee, Rainforest, Dance Park Hotel. It was supervised by the DSCP board composed of Ms Garcia, president; Gov. Raul Daza, honorary chair, lawyer Noel Laman, chair, Jun Herrera, vice president; lawyer Jo Saliva, secretary; Glo Alcala, treasurer; and lawyer Andy Fonacier, director.

140 fights on tap at Pasay derby

MORE than 140 exciting fights are in store for aficionados as Pasay City Cockpit's highly successful "14th Anniversary 5-Cock Derby" enters its championship around at 10 a.m. today.

A total of 156 entries was registered in last Thursday's elimination round, breaking last year's record of 132.

This year's anniversary derby is also the first under PCC's new management team headed by Oscar Gonzales, Eric dela Rosa and Butchoy Olano.

Among those who scored two victories each in the elimination round were Tinoy Gonzales (St. James Pasay), Bimbo Zulueta (El Kapitan), Danny Ty and Romero Yu (Ray New Mgt I), Wilson Go (632) Power Strike), lawyer Gomez (San Jose), Fidel Azarcon (FB Azarcon), Taratitat (Leo Sanga), Alpha II Dec. Pasay (Daday Siochi), RPT Gemaqui (Dindo Valles) and NJC, among others.

At stake in this event hosted by the PCC management is a whopping prize of more than P2 million.

For other inquiries, please contact 816-6750, 843-1746 and 843-1890.

Bates Mandaluyong stagfest Aug. 28

PREPARATIONS are now in full swing for the "Annual RLB 7-Stag Derby," the initial presentation of Mandaluyong Coliseum for the 2001 stag season.

The event, hosted by veteran cocker-breeder Richard L. Bates, is set for Aug. 28 and Aug. 30. The major sponsors are Sagupaan Super Feeds with Washout Shampoo.

Stags banded by PAGBA, UCAP, MIGBA, NGBA and GM-BAN are automatically qualified to join. Individual participants who wish to have farm-to-farm screening may contact Mr. Bates at 0916-3156991 (cellphone), (046)-4140750 (Cavite) or 824-0237 (Manila).

Entry fee is P25,000 and minimum bet is P11,000.

"The farm-to-farm screening officially starts on Aug. 1 and I'm calling on all breeders to be ready with their new battlecrosses," said Bates.

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SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Andam, Lining in; Bata out

BYE, Bata.

Dutch terminator Niels Feijen scored the biggest upset yet of his young career when he defeated Efren "Bata" Reyes yesterday, 9-5, in the Round of 32 of the 2001 Admiral World Pool Championship at the Cardiff International Arena in Cardiff, Wales.

The shocking defeat left only Leonardo Andam and Antonio Lining as the surviving Filipinos in one of the world's toughest pool events that drew 128 entries from nearly 20 nations.

Feijen, a 24 year-old part time club deejay from The Hague, is best remembered for his come from behind demolition of Francisco Bustamante in the Round of 64 last year.

"It's a lot of fun with the orange guys going ballistic every time I won a rack. Efren had the support of most of the crowd early on so they were a great help," Feijen said.

Andam and Lining scored squeakers to barge into the Round of 16.

Andam defanged Satoshi Kawabata of Japan, 9-6, while Lining nipped 1995 World Champion Oliver Ortmann of Germany, 9-8. Andam will next meet Charlie Williams of the United States, while Lining tackles Taiwan's Chia Hsiung Lai for a place in the Round of 8.

Chia also scored an upset by ousting Johnny Archer, 9-4.

"I was really calm out there compared to the Bustamante game last year where my heart was beating something like 180," Feijen said.

Another victim of the upset ax was the American Earl Strickland, who bowed to Germany's Andreas Roshkowski, 9-7.

Other results: C. Melling d. S. Davis, 9-8; M. Immonen d. T Drago, 9-1, R. Eckert d T. Hohmann, 9-8; R. Souquet d. T. Toda, 9-8; J. Jones d. T. Frank, 9-4; A. Ginn d. G. Ponting, 9-3; C. Williams d. L. Tucker, 9-8; D. Alcalde d. D. Jungo, 9-3; M. Chamat d. L. Krenek, 9-1; Chiang SY d. K. Smith, 9-6.

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

BILLIARDS: World Professional Pool Championships 2001 - Day 7, 1st Session at 11 a.m. (r), 2nd Session at 2 p.m. (r), Day 8, Quarterfinals 1st Session at 9 p.m., 2nd Session tomorrow at 2 a.m. on ESPN
CYCLING: 2001 Tour De France Highlights, Stage #12 at 1:30 p.m. (r – 7:30 p.m.) on ESPN
BASKETBALL: Asian Basketball Show at 11 a.m. on Star Sports
WNBA Action at 6 p.m. (r – 8 p.m.) on ESPN
NBA Inside Stuff at 6:30 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

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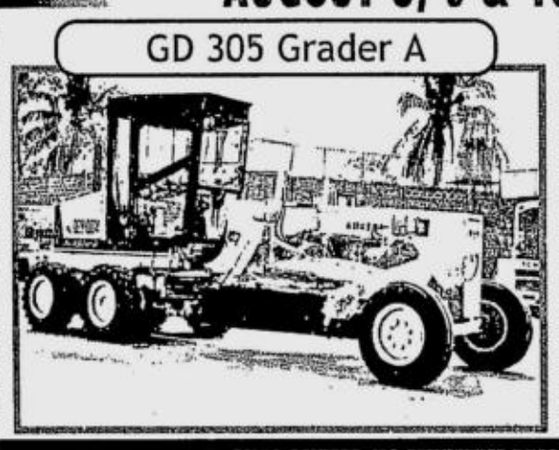

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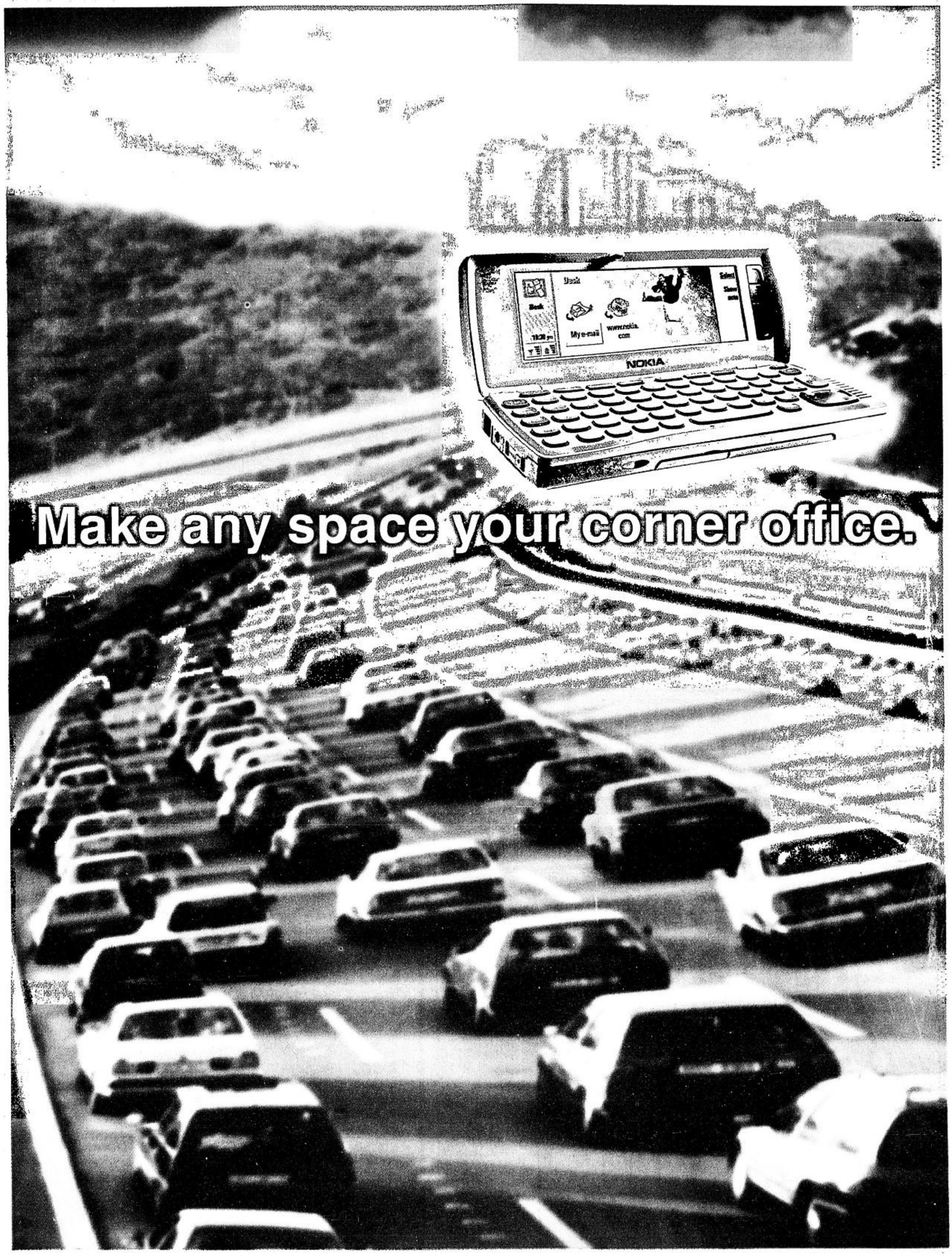

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■ Woman who knew too much slain, dumped A21

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

■ On Target: Executing criminals is addicting A20

Kidnap victim rescued; 1 suspect shot dead

BY JEROME ANING

NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation agents yesterday killed one of three suspected kidnappers and rescued their 17-year-old Chinese Filipino victim during a raid on the suspects' hideout in a Laguna resort.

The two other suspects, PO Abdul Macud Cosain, 31, of the Marawi City police, and Amin Mansin Ador, 25, both temporarily residing on Arlegui Street in Quiapo, were arrested in the raid.

The suspected mastermind, Aminula Dabam, 43, escaped, police said.

One of the suspected kidnappers, Lao Ansino, 20, a resident of Quiapo, Manila, was shot by the NBI agents when he tried to fight back.

NBI Special Action Unit chief Vicente de Guzman III said Alvin Sy was on his way to the Manila Yacht Club tennis court when he was abducted by a group of men in Quiapo about 5:30 a.m. Thursday. The suspects boarded his car and sped away.

Sy's parents sought the help of the NBI. They said the suspects contacted them on their cell phone and demanded a P10-million ransom.

They negotiated with the suspects and were able to reduce the ransom to P5 million.

After a second call from the suspects, the NBI was able to trace the caller to the Bato-bato Resort in Calamba, Laguna. Agents of the SAU and the Special Task Force under Marianito Panganiban drove to the resort.

Their suspicions were confirmed when they saw Sy's car, a Mitsubishi Gallant (UHE-821), parked at the resort around 3 p.m. Thursday.

They were also able to identify the cottage where Sy was detained. The NBI agents rented the two rooms adjoining Sy's.

Around 1 a.m. yesterday, the agents in the two rooms burst into Sy's room. The suspects, caught by surprise, retreated to the comfort room and fired at the NBI agents, the raiders said.

A 15-minute firefight took place, during which Ansuno was killed and Sy was taken from the suspects unharmed.

The other suspects, who remained in the CR, later gave themselves up after they ran out of bullets.

The NBI agents said they confiscated from the suspects two shirts marked "PNP," Cosain's ID card, a Super .38-caliber pistol, a Nextel cell phone, cash and credit cards.

The two suspects, who were presented to media people yesterday, will be charged with kidnapping.

NBI agents and Calamba police are looking for Dabam.

JESS YUSON

SUSPECTS PO1 Abdul Cosain (middle) and Amin Ador are presented to media people by NBI Deputy Director Fernan Nasul.

MAGGIE may look scared while going around Metro Manila, but she is actually welcome in many of its places. CORINNE DE SAN JOSE

Metro Manila dog-friendly

BY MARIO CORNEJO

FILIPINOS love their dogs. Some Filipinos even like theirs with catsup...

Tasteless, I know. But true, nevertheless. And while the majority of us are not dog eaters, it's hard to deny that our attitude toward Fido is fractured to say the least.

Looking around the city, you can see that we are positively schizophrenic about our dogs. For example, even some of the poorest families have a canine companion or two. But then again, so many of these pets are poorly cared for, and eventually end up roaming the earth like Bruce Banner.

On the other hand, some people love their dogs so much they hire full-time *yayas* to wait on their pooches hand and foot.

To solve this puzzle, in true Filipino fashion, I decided to take it to the streets.

I would tour the city with a dog in tow and observe peoples' reactions. Also, I wanted to see if I'd be welcome in various establishments if my date happened to be a dog.

I will pass up the obvious joke.

The setup

The first task was finding the right companion.

My girlfriend Corinne, who also happens to be my photographer, has a sister. Fascinating so far, right? Just wait, this has a point.

That sister has a dog, an adorable mini-dachshund named Maggie. I made the calls and got permission to take Maggie for a day on the town, despite the fact that the poor dog is so sheltered (read: spoiled) that she panics whenever we take her outside.

Getting her into the car was a challenge in itself. It's hard to take a dog somewhere if she is dead set against going. But Maggie is no match for someone six times her body weight.

Once we started rolling, she started a low whine and tried to scrunch herself between me and the backrest. She started shedding, scratching, panting and drooling on everything, myself included. All this while I tried to drive one-handed.

After a while I was such a mess I wasn't sure establishments would let me inside, much less the dog.

Shunned

I decided to try to do all my normal errands and see if Maggie would be a hindrance. First stop was gas.

I went to a Shell station and drove up to the pump, doggie in my lap. The attendant didn't bat an eyelash. I thought perhaps he didn't notice.

So then I went inside the station's convenience store with Maggie on a leash. Still no reaction from the employees or the customers. It was strange. Not even a glance, and this dog was darn cute. People averted their eyes rather than

METRO/A22

Driver's 14-year-old cousin stabbed by jeep passenger

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

HIGH school student Mar N. Jose, 14, was stabbed dead Thursday night while helping his jeepney driver cousin earn a living in Quezon City.

Worse, the suspect had intended to stab Jose's cousin but missed and hit instead the teenager, police said.

Jose, of Lot 1 Block 2 PUD Site P. Burgos Street Escopa II, Project 4, Quezon City, was killed after the unidentified man got mad when the jeepney driven by Cesar Turculas, Jose's cousin, did not stop immediately when the passenger wanted to get off, said investigator PO3 Diosdado Pedronan of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

Pedronan said Jose had joined his cousin to help man the jeepney Thursday night while it plied the Project 4 to Cubao route.

DRIVER'S/A20

UPLB students to stage walkout over ROTC

BY ROMULO O. PONTE
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

HUNDREDS of students from the University of the Philippines in Los Baños, Laguna are expected to join a mass walkout today to demand the abolition of the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

Rage Lim, chair of the League of Filipino Students, told the Inquirer that the walkout would take place at 8 a.m. today as follow-up to last week's protest.

On July 7, UPLB students staged their first walkout, initiated by the militant group Anakbayan-UPLB. Militants marched across the parade grounds, chanting anti-ROTC slogans. Around 300 cadets fell out of the ranks during the ROTC drill and joined the protesters, according to the College Editors Guild of the Philippines-Southern Tagalog.

"ROTC should be abolished because it is not only senseless, but also burdensome," said Jun Sungkit, secretary general of Anakbayan-Southern Tagalog. "It is fascist, as manifested by the savage killing of Mark Chua, an Anakbayan member of the University of Santo Tomas who tried to expose the anomalous transactions in the ROTC."

Lim, who is also an officer of Sakbayan, explained that fee impositions in the ROTC merely add to the financial burden borne by students

UPLB/A20

Wazzzzup?

AUDIOTORIUM 23 MISS AVE., QUEZON CITY	RUBBERBAND	374.2330/373.5574
BUMA 9595 RAMAGONG ST.M.KATI	FIGURE 8 K.O. JONES	896.2116/896.1939
Cowboy's BRGY ALMANZA, LAS PINAS	THINKERS w/ JOGRAD FEEDBACK	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎801.7644
Cowboy's 1390 ARQUEZA ST., MAGINI	J BROTHERS MR. ROXY/HIMIG	P 250 CONSUMABLE 9-3 AM/525.1474
Cowboy's 431 RIMEDIOS ST. MAKATI	HOMOSAPIENS STAY TUNED	P 250 CONSUMABLE 9-2 AM/521.8143
Cowboy's NOVALICHES Q.C.	KOOL JACKS MIX-UP/FREEZE	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎936.9757
DOWNTOWN Music Bar & Restaurant HOTEL REMBRANDT, MOMBASA ST., QC	TIN-TIN GONZAGA TANYA VERONA	P 350 COVER CHARGE ☎373.3333
HOLODECK	B I G	FREE ENTRANCE 726.8028/727.5326
KAMPO 2088 #47 WEST AVENUE Q.C.	PAROKYA NI EDGAR D'BOSS/GROOVE	P 250 CONSUMABLE 373.5110/373.7181
EXAMINER'S LITE n'LIVE #52 EXAMINER ST., Q.C.	VANNA VANNA L . O . C	P 150 CONSUMABLE 373.2221/373.7183
music WAREHOUSE ACROSS CENTRAL MARKET	SANDWICH OTHER GUESTS	P160 ENTRANCE FEE SIDE A JULY 28/735.1280
TIA MARIA'S JUPITER ST., MAKATI CITY	VERSE 2	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎890.4735
TROPICAL FOREST Cafe - Grill - Restaurant TM KALAW TUNE TA MANILA	PART - E	PICA-PICA PLATTER P200/MON-FRI

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Jerry's 2ND FLR CHOWKING BLDG REAL CALAMBA, LAGUNA	ALTEREGO (FULL FORCE)	P 50 ENTRANCE ☎(0917)378.7303
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SATURDAY, JULY 21 911.8983

SPD officer's days of 'kotong' over

PO3 LEVI Dimaala'S *kotong* days are over.

Yesterday, members of the interior department's Task Force Jericho arrested the Southern Police District policeman for allegedly extorting money from motorists in Parañaque, Pasay and Makati.

Dimaala, of the SPD-Traffic Enforcement Group, was arrested after he received marked money from Jericho agents, said Senior Supt. Pedro V. Tango, Task Force Jericho's new chief.

The agents said they also confiscated from Dimaala his motorcycle and a 9 mm pistol.

Tango said Task Force Jericho began investigating Dimaala after his office was swamped by complaints from motorists in southern Metro Manila.

An entrapment operation against the suspect was set up yesterday on the Domestic Road in Pasay, and Dimaala was arrested after he received the marked money from a Jericho agent.

Dimaala was then presented to Interior Secretary Joey Lina, who ordered the filing of extortion and grave misconduct charges against him.

"While we laud the efforts of task Force Jericho in nabbing this *kotong* cop, this should also serve as a warning to other 'enterprising' policemen that, sooner or later, their illegal activities will be unmasked and appropriate charges will be filed against them," Lina said. ***Philip C. Tubeza***

Landslide hits Angono

AT LEAST 18 people almost got buried in the mud and about 200 families panicked when a landslide occurred in Angono, Rizal at dawn yesterday.

Orlando Borasca, 41, of Constellation Creekside in Barangay San Isidro, and one of the survivors said the landslide took place at 2 a.m. yesterday.

He said the families whose houses were swept away escaped getting hurt in the landslide since they had been alert all night.

The houses fell into a 16-meter-deep artificial river reportedly constructed by the Delfin Hermanos Inc. (DHI), the developer of a subdivision beside the river.

Borasca said he and his neighbors had long been opposing the project, as they feared the artificial river might not be able to hold the water coming down from the mountains.

The DHI was able to continue its project after Mayor Gerry Calderon asked the graft court to lift a ban it had imposed on the project.

"Mayor Calderon told us that there was already a relocation site for those who would be affected by the project," Borasca said. "But we know that we would only be transferred to another area at the creek site."

He said living at the creek site was dangerous, as the land was still soft and could easily erode during heavy rains.

Agnes E. Donato

Executing criminals is addicting

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

"DON'T worry, Mon, karmic justice will catch up with him eventually for the crimes he has committed," a friend told me yesterday by way of expressing his moral support for the items I've written in this space about Sen. Panfilo Lacson. It was one of the countless expressions of support I've received.

He was referring to the alleged crimes that Lacson, former Philippine National Police chief, supposedly committed when he was in the service.

I agree with my friend 100 percent. Karmic justice will be meted out to a person who has seriously wronged his fellowmen. Karmic justice may not come immediately, but it will surely come. As sure as night follows day, as sure as the sun rises in the east and sets in the west. And the punishment would be 10 times more hurting than the offenses for which karma is being meted out.

***

The unbelievers would probably ask: "How come he's become a senator? Isn't that a reward instead of a punishment?"

People who have wronged their fellowmen with impunity under the human law will receive their punishment under the law of the universe. The law of the universe is inescapable.

The more down-to-earth would say, "he who lives by the sword shall perish by the sword." That's karmic justice.

***

In the United States, policemen who kill criminals in shootouts are made to undergo psychological rehabilitation so that they can cope with their guilt feelings.

We should have a similar rehabilitation program for policemen or soldiers who kill criminals or enemies of the state during legitimate—repeat, legitimate—shootouts.

Cops who don't go through psychological rehabilitation after killing countless criminals become monsters. More so if the killing is done in extra-judicial fashion. A man becomes inured to guilt feelings after repetitive commission of the same crime.

When I was a police reporter, I met cops who felt restless or couldn't sleep when they have not executed crime suspects in a long time. To them, executing criminals had become an addiction.

***

And I've also met cops who would snuff out the life of just anybody—even an innocent citizen—just so they could satisfy their longing to kill.

If you saw the video compact disc of the interview with Francisco "Kit" Mateo, an alleged hit man of Lacson at the defunct Metrocom Intelligence and Security Group (MISG), you would understand what I mean by "addiction to killing."

Mateo said Lacson, then a lieutenant at the MISG, ordered him to execute at least two innocent civilians for flimsy reasons. One execution was that of a man whose girlfriend, a ramp model, Lacson had taken a fancy to. Another execution, Mateo claimed, was that of a young man who was a boyfriend of a Far Eastern University (FEU) coed. The girl's parents, who were Lacson's friends, were against the relationship.

***

Mateo recanted the confession he made at his sickbed. He said he was only forced to make the confession by Lacson's enemies.

The confessed hit man died of cancer three months ago. His family was either threatened—for how could you scare a dying man—or paid off so he would recant.

Several days after Mateo recanted, one of his children left for the United States, a source told me.

***

Mateo was not the only witness against Lacson who took back his testimony.

The whistle blower in the Kuratong Baleleng massacre, SPO2 Eduardo delos Reyes, recanted his statement after he was handed a big sum of money in Canada where he has settled down.

I know this for a fact because one of those who talked Delos Reyes into retracting happens to be my friend.

***

Many members of the defunct Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (PAOCTF), which Ping Lacson headed in a concurrent capacity, were addicted to "salvagings" (summary execution).

A former PAOCTF member told me that some of the unit's top officers were so pissed off by the unsavory reports about the unit that they plotted to execute journalists who wrote the reports.

I can believe what that PAOCTF member told me. A man who turned out to be a PAOCTF agent ambushed a tabloid reporter near Camp Crame. This was at the time Roberto Lastimoso was still the PNP chief. Luckily, the reporter survived the ambush.

And what happened to the PAOCTF agent who ambushed the reporter? He died mysteriously in a hospital.

***

The former PAOCTF insider who told me about the PAOCTF plot to kill "unfriendly" journalists said the plan was scrapped after one of the officers stood up and took up the cudgels for the reporters.

My gosh, if President Erap was not ousted by People Power II, there's no telling what kind of havoc PAOCTF would have done to this country!

The agency would have been another MISG, the most dreaded military unit during the martial law years. Lacson was a product of the MISG.

And this guy wants to be President!

Driver's . . . (From page 19)

Police said Turculas was cruising along General Malvar Street, near the COD department store, when one male passenger suddenly shouted for the jeepney to stop.

But Turculas did not stop immediately, police said. He first maneuvered the jeep to the side of the street.

The suspect, police said, got mad and cursed Turculas. A heated argument ensued between Turculas and the suspect. At the height of their squabble, the suspect got off the jeepney, walked to the driver's seat, pulled out a fan knife and then lunged at Turculas, police said.

Turculas managed to avoid the knife thrust, but it hit Jose in the breast, police said.

After seeing he had stabbed the wrong person, the suspect fled, police said.

Turculas rushed Jose to the Quezon City Medical Center where the boy was declared dead on arrival.

Perdonan said police were trying to get a clear description of the suspect so they could start hunting him down.

UPLB students . . . (From page 19)

and their parents.

Uniforms, including combat boots, cost P2,000 to P3,000, Lim said.

"Corruption is also inherent in the ROTC program as an extension or apparatus of the military and the government," she said.

Abolish!-UPLB, an alliance of organizations such as the LFS, Student Christian Movement, Anakbayan, Sakbayan, the University Student Council, Inter-Fraternity Council and student bodies, called for the immediate abolition of the ROTC program.

"ROTC has served as an intelligence network against socially involved and progressive student institutions and organizations within campuses," the CEGP said in a statement. "The right to organize and express opinions is being attacked by military extensions such as ROTC, which reinforces the culture of machismo, repression and hatred against fellow cadets, students and people.

"ROTC serves the thrust of the military in defending the corrupt and rotten government and by distorting the youth's sense of nationalism and service. The skills, values and orientation of the youth can be enhanced through socio-civic work, and not by subjecting them under the scorching heat of the sun and curses from their commandants and officers. Military training is not necessary for the youth to understand nationalism."

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Robber who survived shootout gets life

BY JEROME ANING

A MANILA Regional Trial Court judge yesterday sentenced to life imprisonment a robber who had survived a shootout where two of his companions and a policeman were killed.

Manila RTC Branch 18 Judge Perfecto Laguio Jr. found Bhoi Bacunawa guilty of killing SPO1 Cirilo Valenzuela in a gunfight at the North Harbor on March 18, 1998.

The court relied heavily on the account of Valenzuela's partner SPO1 Stephen Martinez, who testified that he was standing beside the police mobile patrol unit they used in chasing the suspects when the shooting happened.

Records showed that Valenzuela and Martinez intercepted Bacunawa and his companions, who were on a motorcycle. The suspects refused to stop, forcing the policemen to chase them.

The trio was found to be escaping after they had just robbed a couple in neighboring Caloocan City.

The suspects finally stopped on the sidewalk, and SPO1 Valenzuela approached them, asking Bacunawa, who was driving, for his license. But the two other suspects drew firearms and fired at SPO1 Valenzuela, Martinez recounted.

Although injured, Valenzuela was able to return fire and, with Martinez, killed two of the suspects. Bacunawa, who was injured during the firefight, tried to escape, but was captured by responding policemen.

In his defense, Bacunawa said the policemen began shooting at him and his companions as he was about to lie face down on the ground after giving his driver's license to Valenzuela.

But Judge Laguio did not believe Bacunawa and junked his claim that his companions only persuaded him to go with them for a ride on the motorcycle on the night of the shootout.

"SPO1 Martinez has in his favor the presumption of regularity in the performance of his duties and the records are devoid of evidence that he was improperly motivated to testify falsely against the accused," the judge ruled.

But the court dismissed two other charges also filed against Bacunawa for lack of evidence—violations of the election gun ban and anti-fencing laws.

The court also ordered Bacunawa to pay the family of Valenzuela P350,000 in damages.

Honda Civic kills 1, hurts another in LP road accident

BY ALCUIN PAPA

TWO friends who were exchanging stories while crossing a busy road in Las Piñas City yesterday were run over by a speeding car, which killed one of them and seriously injured the other.

Marcelino Guinto, 23, a resident of 31-B Tabing Ilog, Bacoor, Cavite, died while his friend Christopher Osorio, 18, of Narra Street, Camella 5, Las Piñas City, was rushed to the Perpetual Help Medical Center with broken bones and cuts and bruises.

Las Piñas police arrested Alexis Ramos, 33, a resident of 2447-A Agata St., San Andres, Manila and driver of the Honda Civic (ULS-559).

Investigation by SPO4 Domingo Blando of the Las Piñas traffic police said the accident happened at 2:10 a.m. in front of the Bahay Silungan Club and Restaurant along the Alabang-Zapote Road in Pamplona, Las Piñas.

Witness Venerando Lacorum, 32, a taxi driver and a resident of 29-A Mapagbigay St., V. Luna, Quezon City, said he was driving his Jamflict Taxi along the Alabang-Zapote Road when he noticed the two men talking with each other while crossing the road.

He said the two men did not notice Ramos' bronze Honda Civic which reportedly did not have its headlights on.

The witness said the car hit the two men and the impact sent Guinto sprawling in front of Lacorum's taxi.

Ramos is now detained at the Las Piñas City jail and is awaiting charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide and multiple physical injuries.

Security guard stabbed to death by drug user

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

SECURITY guard Rogelio L. De Villa did not make it home alive yesterday after a hard night's work. He was stabbed dead by a suspected drug addict in Quezon City.

De Villa, 33, of 630 Araneta Avenue, Barangay Tatalon, Quezon City, died after an unidentified male suspect stabbed him in the right chest, said investigator SPO1 Cresencio Bajao, of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

De Villa was walking home yesterday when, at the corner of E. Rodriguez and Araneta Ave., the suspect, armed with a knife, crept out of the darkness and lunged at De Villa at 12:36 a.m., Bajao said.

Police said De Villa was not able to parry the knife thrust. But he was able to run away from the suspect despite the stab wound, police said.

Along the way, De Villa met his father-in-law, David del Socorro, who brought him to the Philippine Orthopedic Hospital, police said.

De Villa died at 1:20 p.m. yesterday while doctors were trying to save him.

Police said De Villa was not able to identify his assailant.

Bajao said police are now looking for witnesses to the stabbing.

Olivarez petition dismissed

BY ALCUIN PAPA

THE COMMISSION on Elections yesterday dismissed a petition filed by losing Parañaque mayoral candidate Pablo Olivarez to declare a failure of election in the city.

The Comelec meeting en banc dismissed Olivarez's petition for lack of merit.

Olivarez had asked the poll body to declare a failure of election in the city on May 14 on two grounds.

First, he claimed that Parañaque election officials did not delist 93,200 fake voters. Because of this, Olivarez said, the list of voters suffered from "intrinsic invalidity and lack of integrity."

Second, Olivarez said, the election returns as prepared by the city election officials were also invalid.

However, upon careful review, the commission dismissed Olivarez's petition saying it did not conform to the conditions of failure of elections as stipulated by the Supreme Court and the Omnibus Election Code.

According to the law, a failure of elections can only be declared if on, before or after the voting, the election is suspended because of force majeure, violence, terrorism, fraud or other similar causes.

Woman who knew too much slain, dumped

BY JEROME ANING

LAUNDRYWOMAN Araceli Picar, who allegedly "knew too much" about her neighbors' illegal activities, was clubbed to death, placed inside a sack and thrown into a creek in Binondo, Manila yesterday.

Picar, 49, a resident of a slum community on the banks of Estero dela Reina, Binondo, was found hogtied with a nylon cord when her body was fished out of the creek about 6 a.m. yesterday.

There were wounds and bruises on her head and body, apparently inflicted by metal bars or pipes. Her neck was also broken and an improvised steel cane was found in her mouth, according to SPO1 Athos de Quiros of the city police's homicide section.

Police later arrested suspects Lito Puyat alias "Amang," 43, the alleged mastermind, Luigi Gangca alias Tata, 25, and Edgar dela Cruz alias "Egay," of 1783 Solis St., Tondo.

Puyat and Gangca are the victim's neighbors. Picar was last seen alive by her "live-in" partner, Jimmy Caligan, about 10 a.m. on Thursday.

Investigators learned that Puyat came to threaten Picar when she discovered and openly denounced his alleged illegal activities, such as collecting money from residents for illegal water and electric connections, and drug pushing.

Caligan told police that before she left for work, he advised Picar to stay away from Puyat and temporarily live with her daughter Virginia in Dagupan Street, Tondo.

Picar told Caligan she would just cook rice before she would go to Virginia. Caligan said when he arrived home at noon, he found Picar gone and thought she had gone to her daughter.

That afternoon, Caligan was on his way home when he met an 11-year-old girl who told him that Picar was abducted about 3 p.m. by the three suspects and taken to a nearby warehouse.

Caligan told police he went to Virginia and found her deeply worried because one of Picar's neighbors, an elderly woman, came to Virginia's house and said she saw the suspects dragging Picar into Puyat's house.

The old woman claimed she even heard the suspects torturing Picar, who screamed in pain and begged for mercy.

Police immediately arrested Puyat, Gangca and Dela Cruz. They will be charged with murder as soon as the witnesses' testimonies are taken, SPO1 De Quiros told reporters.

In an interview, Puyat admitted that he had put up illegal water and electric connections in the neighborhood.

But all the suspects claimed they were somewhere else when the crime took place, adding they would never harm Picar, despite her accusations.

Amok gunned down by soldier, policemen

BY ALCUIN PAPA

A DRUNKEN taxi driver who ran amuck yesterday in Pasay City died after a soldier of the Philippine Air Force and a police officer gunned him down.

Jerillo Ellorin, 31, of 129 Maginhawa St. corner Tantarat Street, Pasay City, died from loss of blood at the Pasay City General Hospital, police said.

Ellorin suffered two gunshot wounds from a .45 pistol.

Master Sgt. Ricardo de la Cruz and PO2 Alejandro Cabatingan surrendered to Pasay police after shooting Ellorin.

The shooting happened about 3:15 a.m. yesterday outside Ellorin's house, said PO3 Fernando Escol of the Pasay City Police Criminal Investigation Division.

Police said a drunken Ellorin was shouting and waving his .38 pistol when Dela Cruz, his neighbor, appeared and tried to pacify him.

But Ellorin fired at Dela Cruz who managed to duck and fired back at Ellorin, hitting him in the left thigh, police said.

Wounded and enraged, police said Ellorin went inside his house and threatened to shoot his wife Anna Jean. But his gun misfired, and Ellorin instead struck Anna Jean in the head with his gun, police said.

Anna Jean, however, managed to get out of their house, and neighbors rushed her to a hospital for a gaping wound in her head, police said.

Neighbors then called police for help.

A few minutes later, police said Ellorin went outside his house with his gun. But Cabatingan, who also lives in the area, appeared and fired a warning shot. He also told Ellorin to give up peacefully, police said.

But Ellorin fired at Cabatingan, forcing the policeman to return fire, hitting the taxi driver in the right thigh, police said.

Ellorin fell unconscious and was rushed to hospital but died from loss of blood, police said.

Crame cop threatens to shoot old woman

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

CAMP Crame policeman SPO3 Salvador Gutieres is in hot water after he allegedly poked his gun at a 65-year-old widow and threatened to kill her while she was on her way to a hospital in Quezon City with her sick son.

The widow, Daisy Pua-Quindingan, of Waling-Waling Street Botanical Garden in Barangay Central, Quezon City accused Gutieres of threatening her with his gun and even firing it twice in the air to frighten her on Tuesday night, Kamuning police yesterday reported.

Quindingan told investigators she was waiting for a taxi near her home about 11:10 p.m. Tuesday to take her son to a hospital when she met Gutieres and a certain Bert Vidal, who were both drunk, at a nearby *sari-sari* store.

Quindingan said Gutieres suddenly approached her, pulled out his handgun, and pointed it at her.

She said Gutieres cursed at her then ordered her to drop on the ground as he identified himself as a policeman.

She also quoted the policeman as saying, "I will kill you and your son Jerry!"

Quindingan said Gutieres then pointed his gun up and fired two shots in the air.

But Quindingan said her relatives came to her rescue and asked a passerby to go to the nearby Kamuning police station for help.

Unfortunately, Gutieres was already gone when responding policemen arrived, Quindingan said.

Police said Quindingan had gone to Camp Crame to file a complaint against Gutieres. But Quindingan did not know Gutieres' unit and was told to report the incident to the Kamuning police station.

Kamuning policemen said Gutieres is not a member of the Central Police District.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, July 21, 2001
15th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: *Ex 12:37-42*
Gospel: *Mt 12:14-21*

The Pharisees went out and made plans to get rid of him. As Jesus was aware of the plot, he went away from that place. Many people followed him and he cured all who were sick. Then he gave them strict orders not to make him known.

In this way Isaiah's prophecy was fulfilled:

Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, and with whom I am pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him and he will announce my judgment to the nations.

He will not argue or shout, nor will his voice be heard in the streets. The bruised reed he will not crush, nor snuff out the smoldering wick. He will persist until justice is made victorious and in him all the nations will put their hope."

Commentary:

Against the background of rejection from the side of the Pharisees who went even to the extent of making plans to destroy him, we can see clearer the personality of Jesus and his healing mission. Matthew sees in Jesus the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah, and describes him as the beloved Servant of Yahweh. Jesus' healing mission goes even beyond the boundaries of Israel. He is the hope of the Gentiles. Accepting the role of the servant, Jesus is obedient to God's gracious plan of salvation. The rejection of the Pharisees stands in stark contrast to this obedience. Their narrow interpretation of the law is based on a dangerous misreading of God's plans with Israel. Their disobedience leads to the destruction of life.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for having chosen us to be instruments of your goodness. Make us obedient in all we do to your plans.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CIVIL PROCEDURE)—General rule that findings of fact should not be raised in a petition for review under Rule 45; exceptions—Generally, questions of fact should not be raised in a petition for review under Rule 45 of the Rules of Court. The exceptions to the general rule are as follows: (1) When the factual findings of the Court of Appeals and the trial court are contradictory; (2) When the conclusion is a finding grounded entirely on speculation, surmises or conjectures; (3) When the inference made by the Court of Appeals from its findings of fact is manifestly mistaken, absurd or impossible; (4) When there is grave abuse of discretion in the appreciation of facts; (5) When the appellate court, in making its findings, went beyond the issues of the case, and such findings are contrary to the admissions of both appellant and appellee; (6) When the judgment of the Court of Appeals is premised on misapprehension of facts; (7) When the Court of Appeals failed to notice certain relevant facts which, if properly considered, would justify a different conclusion; (8) When the findings of facts are themselves conflicting; (9) When the findings of fact are conclusions without citation of the specific evidence on which they are based; and (10) When the findings of fact of the Court of Appeals are premised on the absence of evidence but such findings are contradicted by the evidence on record. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Panganiban, Cordial v. Miranda, G.R. No. 135495, December 14, 2000]

Digest by R.B. Vera

People's Journal staff reunion

THE ORIGINAL staff, contributors and supporters of People's Journal will have a reunion on July 22, Sunday, starting at 12 noon at the function room of Sukhothai Restaurant (fourth floor, SM Megamall, Building A) on Edsa in Mandaluyong City.

For further information and confirmation of attendance, contact Ester Dipasupil at People's Journal, 527-4635 or cell phone 0919-840-8773, or Babeth Lolarga, 631-6765, 635-0247 or 631-9807.

Metro Manila dog-friendly

It seemed like dogs weren't welcome, they were preferable to humans.

(From page A19)

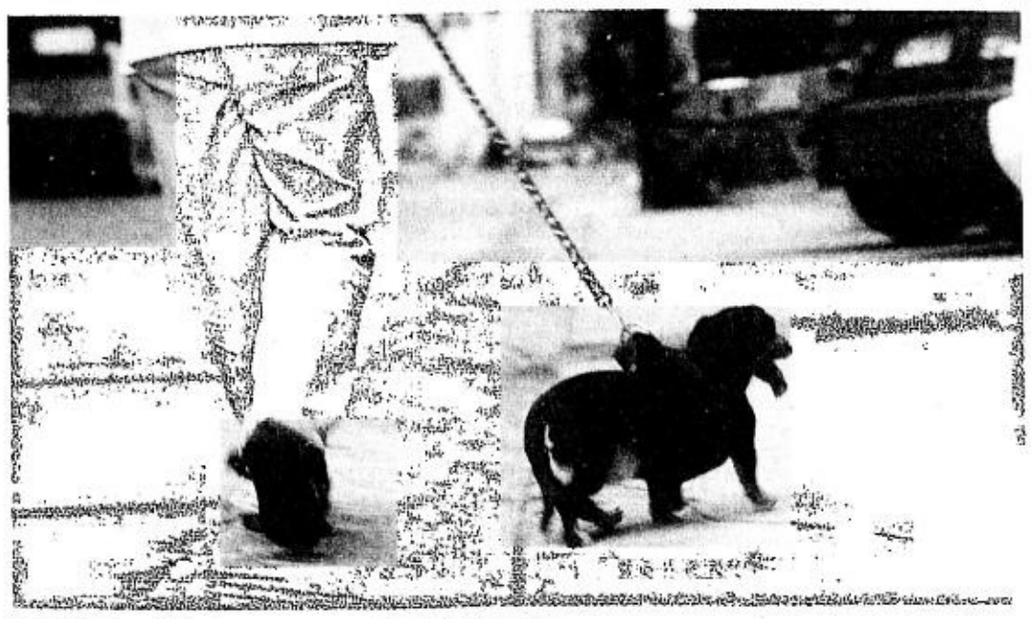
look at Maggie and me. I was being shunned.

Was this the store policy? Do not notice the dog? I looked around, but couldn't find the sign. I wanted to ask Corinne if we had fallen into some alternate reality where cute dogs are ignored, but then I remembered she was with me as my photographer, not my girlfriend. When she's on the job I may not address her directly except in a professional capacity. In fact, whenever we were out we pretended not to be together in order not to influence the results of the experiment.

Disheartened by the lack of response, I walked out with Maggie at my heels. Then I noticed something strange. The further away I walked from the station, the more people noticed and interacted with my dog. My suspicions were confirmed!

Jollibee

Next I decided to see if I could enter a fast food restaurant. I went to the nearest Jollibee



MAGGIE and his temporary master tour the city.

carrying Maggie like an infant. Immediately the guard started to intercept me.

"Sir, bawal po pumasok ang aso."

There it was. A clear-cut policy, stated right to my face. So naturally, I ignored it.

"Sandali lang ako," I said, and barged right in. Purely for the sake of experiment, of course. And it worked, though I was ashamed of my boorish behavior. They let me buy my iced tea, though they obviously weren't happy about it. They didn't want to be rude to me and I applaud their restraint, and I don't encourage anyone to follow my example.

Having taken the plunge, I was once again ready to pound the pavement. And once again, Maggie was a hit. There's something about a cute dog that makes people smile.

Next stop was a one-hour photo-developing store to pick up some pictures and buy film. Maggie's flawless coat and cute butt charmed everyone in the store, and we were inundated with compliments and questions. This was more like it! It seemed like dogs weren't just welcome, they were preferable to humans.

We left with our spirits and egos high. It was time to take on the big fish, and ask the burning question of the day.

Can a guy with a dog go grocery shopping? We would soon find out.

The supermarket

Cradling the poor pooch in my arms, I strode quickly and with purpose into Magallanes Supermarket. I was fast, but the store security was faster, singing that familiar refrain.

"Bawal po aso dito."

I begged and pleaded, but they were adamant. I was rude and threatening; they were polite yet firm. Upon my request they consulted their supervisor, who confirmed the ban on non-primates. I was crushed. But they were creative. They offered to watch Maggie while I went shopping inside. That was a great compromise, and I accepted at once. I left the dog readily, which may have seemed unusual to the guards, but they didn't know that my photographer was also watching out for her incognito.

By the time I was done, Maggie and one guard had developed quite a bond, and he seemed truly sad to see us go.

"Hinahanap ho kayo parati. Silip ako nang silip sa loob."

Of course he was unaware that Maggie was actually looking at my girlfriend and wondering why she was intentionally ignoring her while pretending to browse through magazines.

Finally it was time for the final challenge. The shopping mall. And not just any shopping mall. The Big One. Glorietta.

The mall

I was tense just going in the car park. I was sure they'd stop me as soon as they saw my little friend.

The girl handing out the parking card stared, but said nothing. Entering the mall itself, not only was I allowed to go inside, the security guard didn't even do the customary frisking, though he did frisk the people in front of me. Maybe he figured he had nothing to fear from a man carrying a mini-dachshund.

We were in! The rivers were where they could ramble, the eagles were where they can fly, and we were shoe shopping in the mall.

Unfortunately, Maggie's frazzled nerves took their toll. As we relaxed with iced coffee in Figaro, a couple with a child in a stroller went by.

Maggie hates children. The only thing she hates more than children are children in strollers.

So naturally, she went nuts. She started barking at the top of her lungs, creating a mini-disturbance. Embarrassed, I picked her up and took her out of the mall as quickly as I could. Obviously, it was time to go home.

Nonetheless, I consider the day to be a great success. We laughed, we cried, and made a few friends along the way. And we discovered that on the whole, there is a place for dogs in the metropolis.

But for any pet lovers keen on taking their beloved dog out into the big city, please be reasonable.

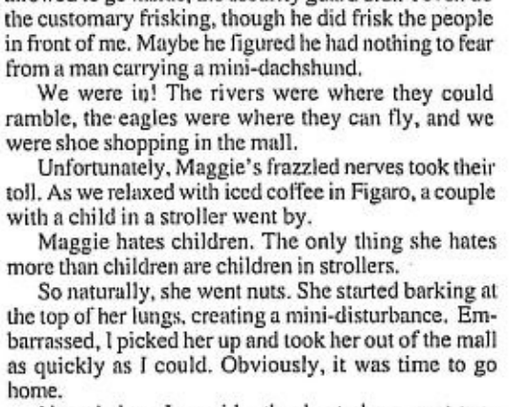
Keep your pet under control at all times, and on a leash. If they cause a disturbance, be responsible and take them away immediately. Don't let them make a mess anywhere, and if they do, for heaven's sake clean up after them.

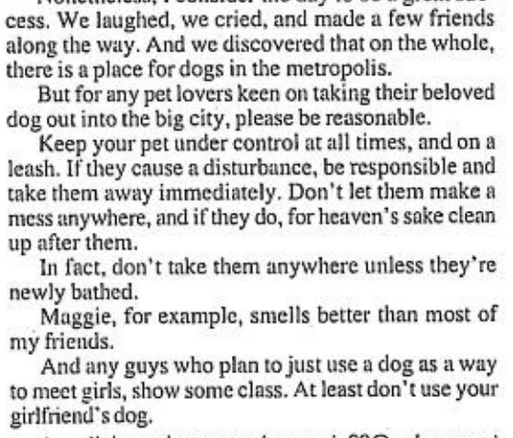
In fact, don't take them anywhere unless they're newly bathed.

Maggie, for example, smells better than most of my friends.

And any guys who plan to just use a dog as a way to meet girls, show some class. At least don't use your girlfriend's dog.

(email the author at mariocornejo99@yahoo.com)





IN SEARCH of acceptance, Maggie (from top) is able to enter Jollibee despite its no-dogs policy, goes inside the Glorietta where she is not frisked, and into the Shell convenience store where she does not even merit a curious glance. CORINNE DE SAN JOSE

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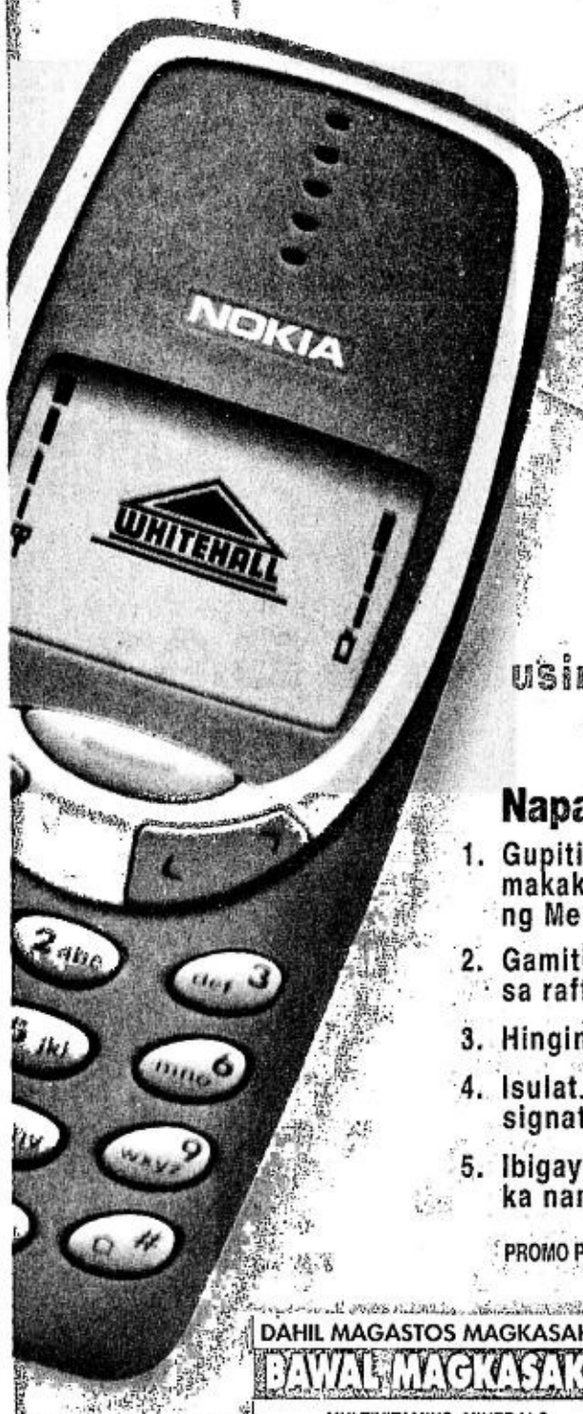

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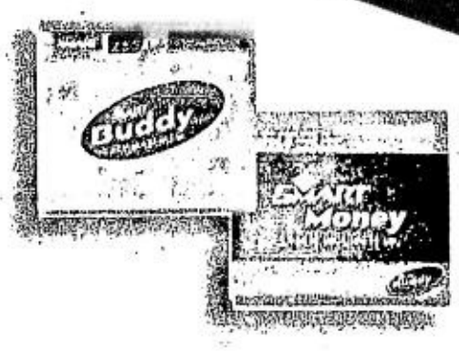

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8 AMORSEKO

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5 RESERVE
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3 MAHAL KITA...
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Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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4 PARU-PARONG LIGAW

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
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CINEMA-7	ATLANTIS
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CINEMA-12	DRIVEN
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CINEMA-15	PANGAKO IKAW LANG
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CINEMA-3	CLOSED
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CINEMA-6	SWORD FISH
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CINEMA-2	BATANG MAGDALENA
CINEMA-4	KAKAIBANG KARISMA
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Man gets 14 years for murder

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

A MALABON judge has sentenced a man to 14 years in prison for killing his friend over a woman two years ago in Navotas.

Judge Benjamin Antonio found vendor Rommel Arcilla, 21, guilty of stabbing to death driver Ramil Mamon, 25, last May 30, 1999 inside the Navotas Fishport Complex.

Court records showed the killing was triggered by a long-running feud between Arcilla and Mamon over a woman.

The court also ordered Arcilla to pay the victim's family P50,000 in damages.

Mamon, who died while undergoing treatment, managed to seek his sister's help after he was stabbed. While he was being rushed to the Tondo Medical Center, Mamon kept telling his sister that it was Arcilla who stabbed him.

In his testimony, Arcilla claimed he could not have killed Mamon since he allegedly did not leave his store when the incident took place.

But Judge Antonio ruled that "a dying declaration is worthy of belief because it is highly unthinkable for one who is aware of his impending death accuse, falsely or even carelessly, anyone of being responsible for his foreseeable demise."

Cripple sues cop

BY JEROME ANING

A HANDICAPPED man yesterday filed charges against rookie Malabon City policeman PO1 Edwin Crisini whom he accused of beating him up in Tondo, Manila.

Alexander Bernardo, of 1489 Franco Street, Tondo, said as a result of the beating, he was hospitalized for a week.

Bernardo told police he and his friends were walking home from a *despedida* party about 2:50 p.m. last July 11 along Juan Luna corner Nicodemus Street when a young man threw a bottle at his path.

Bernardo, a victim of poliomyelitis, told investigator PO3 Rommel Anicente of the city police's general assignments section, that he confronted the bottle-thrower, whom he thought was mocking him, when Crisini arrived at the scene and introduced himself as the youth's uncle.

But instead of admonishing his nephew, Bernardo said Crisini accosted him, punched him in the face and kicked him in the belly several times, while pointing his .9mm-caliber service firearm gun at his companions.

Chief Insp. Eduardo Villena, GAS chief, said PO1 Crisini will be summoned to WPD headquarters to give his side.

LOUIE'S CINEMA

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HEAD OVER HEELS
(PG-13 RT - 1:30)
Romantic - Comedy
Starring:
Freddie Prinze Jr.
Monica Potter
Sarah O'Hare
Shalom Harlow
Tomico Fraser
July 21 - Saturday
3:00 PM - Head Over Heels
6:00 PM - CLOSED (LRP Foundation/St. Anthony Sch.
9:00 PM - Head Over Heels
11:00 PM - Head Over Heels

Jurasic Park III
opens Wednesday
July 25

Pasay cop who killed another cop yields

BY ALCUIN PAPA

THE POLICEMAN who shot and killed a fellow officer in Pasay City on Wednesday has surrendered to the authorities.

PO2 Alberto Barangas on Friday turned himself in to Supt. Alex Gutierrez, Pasay police chief.

Barangas, 26, assigned to Pasay Police Station 1, allegedly killed SPO2 Francisco Dela Cruz, 51, also assigned to station 1 on Wednesday.

The suspect told Gutierrez that he and Dela Cruz had just had a drink and were on their way to a party, when the motorcycle they were riding on conked out at the corner of Buendia Avenue and Edsa near the Boom na Boom Carnival in Pasay City.

Dela Cruz told Barangas to get off the motorcycle and to start pushing.

But because he had too much to drink, Dela Cruz lost his balance and fell off the motorcycle, Barangas said. A fuming Dela Cruz then picked himself up and punched Barangas, police said.

But Barangas was also drunk and already angry. He drew his .9mm service pistol, shot Dela Cruz in the left temple and calmly walked away, police said.

Barangas denied that the shooting was a result of a doublecross deal between the two lawmen.

Barangas, who is now in the custody of Gutierrez, is facing administrative and criminal charges for the killing.

Man killed for teasing housemaid

"I COULDN'T take it anymore!"

This was the tearful confession of housemaid Virginia Celestial, 23, after she killed houseboy Walter Surtidoz, 20, the other night in Taguig.

She told police she could not stand Surtidoz for teasing her about her harelip.

Police said Surtidoz, of Isnihara Apartments, Rogan Street, Maharlika Village, Taguig, was stabbed several times and died on the way to the Taguig-Pateros District Hospital.

According to PO2 Junrene Obico of the Taguig Police Criminal Investigation Division, the two were in the apartment's kitchen chatting when Surtidoz started to tease Celestial about 10:30 p.m.

Offended, Celestial started to argue with the victim. Surtidoz lost his temper and punched Celestial in the face, police said.

But the woman told police she blacked out when Surtidoz hit her. She claimed she was not aware that she had pulled out a kitchen knife and stabbed him with it until it was over.

"He was always teasing me," Celestial told police. "I had to endure it until I couldn't take it anymore."

Celestial is now behind bars awaiting charges at the Taguig police station.

Alcuin Papa

Pregnant teens barred from health program

THE MAKATI Health Program will no longer extend benefits to cover cases of teenage pregnancies under the Yellow Card Program, Mayor Jejomar Binay said.

The new policy is expected to discourage and help prevent the growing incidence of teenage pregnancies in the city.

Ma. Lourdes Salud, city health officer, said teenagers who get pregnant are risking their own and their children's lives, because the female's reproductive organ gets fully developed at age 20.

Salud said among the complications that attend early pregnancies are "preeclamsia," caused by high blood pressure that sometimes resulted in death, and post partum hemorrhage, where the child may die due to sepsis or other infections, premature birth, or low birth weight.

The MHP issues yellow cards to indigent city residents, allowing them to avail of free medical and hospital services at the Ospital ng Makati and Makati Medical Center (MMC).

The Makati City government pays P10 million a month to the MMC for various services extended to yellow cardholders.

BJMP to check epidemic threat at Antipolo jail

THE HEALTH service unit of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology has recommended the construction of wider jail facilities with proper ventilation to allow free movement of inmates and improvement in nutrition to prevent an outbreak of edema epidemic at the Antipolo City Jail.

Senior Supt. Cesar O. de Guzman, head of the bureau's health service unit, said the twin recommendations would be complemented by aggressive health education for inmates and jail personnel and allocation of additional medical supplies.

De Guzman submitted the report to BJMP officer-in-charge Chief Supt. Arturo W. Alit.

Edema is a disease characterized by an abnormal accumulation of fluids in tissues, cells or cavities, causing swelling.

The report of De Guzman was based on the findings of a medical team sent to the Antipolo jail to look into the health conditions of inmates. The team was composed of Senior Insp. Eden Fe M. Cajuilig, a medical doctor; and Agnes C. Rafer, a nurse.

De Guzman said the team examined and treated 36 patients, including 12 afflicted with edema. Other inmates were treated for anemia, bronchitis, boil, bronchial asthma, scabies, dermatitis and others.

Alit directed Region 4 Assistant Regional Director Senior Supt. Virgilio N. Tenebro to immediately implement the recommendations of the medical team and to submit periodic reports on its progress.

He also directed de Guzman to send medical teams to other BJMP jails to conduct similar studies.

Manila 'frees' more sidewalks

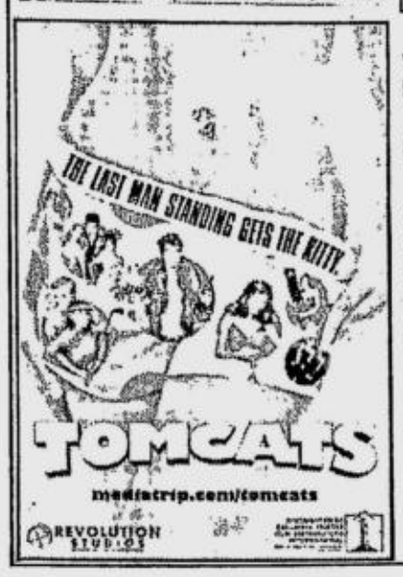
MANILA Mayor Lito Atienza remains unfazed following attempts to derail his campaign to "liberate" sidewalks on major thoroughfares in the city.

One such attempt came from second-hand book dealers on Recto Avenue who filed a court petition citing Atienza and other city officials for contempt.

"As far as we in the city government are concerned, the campaign to clear the sidewalks on major thoroughfares in Manila will continue," said Atty. Emmanuel Sison, secretary to the mayor.

Sison pointed out that Task Force Zero Obstruction has given adequate warning to those who have constructed illegal structures on sidewalks.

MTRCB ▶ R | Strictly for ADULTS. No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.



4th Sexy Date Movie DAY!

Introducing, the "Tomcats," tropa ng free-wheeling, sex-obsessed guys, na walang inatupag kung hindi maka-iskor at magbilang ng nobya.

Nagpustahan ang barkada – sino ang huling barako na di patatali sa pag-aasawa?

Matapos ang ilang taon, sina Michael (Jerry O'Connell ng JERRY MAGUIRE) at Kyle (Jake Busey ng STARSHIP TROOPERS) na lang ang natitirang bachelor sa grupo.

Upang manalo sa pusta, ise-set up ni Mike si Kyle with super-seductive Natalie (Shannon Elizabeth ng SCARY MOVIE, AMERICAN PIE). Nguni't di niya inaasahan na maiinlab din pala siya sa sexing dalaga. Manalo man siya sa pusta, maglalaho naman ang true love niya!

Silipin din sa hilarious sexy comedy from Columbia Pictures sina Playboy playmates Julia Schultz at Amber Smith. **Rated R.**

Final Fantasy | MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

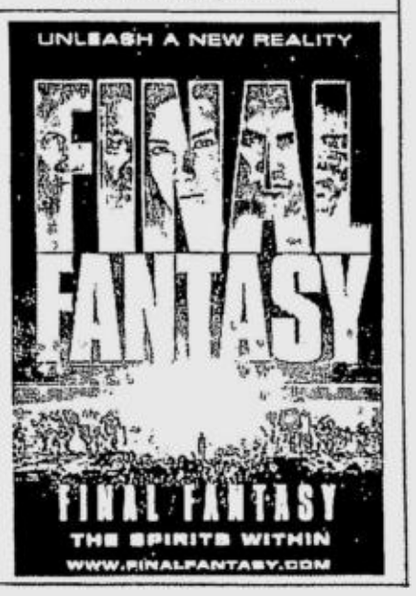
Eye-popping sci-fi epic adventure

In the year 2065, a meteor crashes Earth, unleashing millions of destructive alien creatures. The beautiful Dr. Aki Ross is the planet's hope to overpower the alien invaders.

Infected with an alien spirit, Aki holds the key to defeating the creatures, as she scours the earth to collect the eight spirits that will save the planet, and pursues her final fantasy.

Share a motion picture unlike anything seen or imagined before on screen. Marvel at the latest in hyper-real CGI (computer generated image) technology.

2ND MUST-SEE ADVENTURE WEEK!



POWER PLANT CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

ATLANTIS - GP 11:15, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15	ALONG CAME A SPIDER - P 13 11:30, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10	DR. DOLITTLE 2 - GP 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
FINAL FANTASY - P 13 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50	TOM CATS - R 18 11:40, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00	SWORD FISH - R 18 11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6:00, 8:10, 10:20

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

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Cats & Dogs
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HELP THE CANINE AGENTS.....

The Canine Intelligence Service needs your help and is offering rewards for any information that leads to the apprehension of several armed and dangerous known mad-cats who are plotting to take over the world.

FIND THESE WANTED MAD-CATS

AND REWARDS AWAIT YOU!!

Follow these ultra-secret steps to get your hands on cool premium items:

Step 1. Look for any photos of mad-cats in cinemas lobbies, malls and major roads.

Step 2. Fill-out this form completely and fax to 521-2673. Only the first 8 valid/correct entry address to AGENT BUTCH: will win T-shirt, to AGENT LOU: will win a cap, to AGENT PEEK: will win a frisbee and to AGENT SAM: will win a pair of movie passes. So be quick and fax it now!

Attention: Agent_____(name of your favorite canine agent)

I spotted a mad-cat at: _____
(indicate the name of mall or cinema or poster-billboard location)

Confidential information: Name:_____Phone:_____Email:_____

Step 3. Wait for the Canine Agents to call you! They will give you instructions on claiming your prize. Only 1 person from a household can win. A person can only win once.

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PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
From the Critically Acclaimed Director of "CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON"

RIDE WITH THE DEVIL

A Film by ANG LEE

IN A NO-MAN'S LAND BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH, YOU DIDN'T FIGHT FOR THE BLUE OR THE GRAY... YOU FOUGHT FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR FAMILY.

SKEET ULRICH TOBEY MAGUIRE JEFFREY WRIGHT

Ang Lee ("The Ice Storm," "Sense and Sensibility" & Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon") once again takes audiences on a journey to a different time and place, and into his characters' internal conflicts. A cast of rising young stars portrays young Americans, striving to define themselves and the country they had always called home, amidst national turmoil. The screenplay for Ride with the Devil is adapted (by Lee's longtime collaborator, James Schamus) from Daniel Woodrell's novel Woe to Live On.

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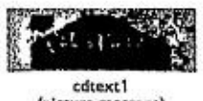
Official Cats & Dogs graphics

dogface3
(picture message)

cdtext1
(operator logo)

dogeyes11
(operator logo)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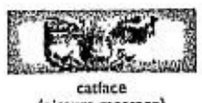
catface
(picture message)

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To receive more information on different commands, key in **HELP** <command> and send to 239.

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*Available on selected Nokia handsets only.

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This service is available through: Smart Gold, Buddy

Promo Mechanics:

1. From July 21 to August 15, 2001, all Smart Gold and Buddy subscribers registered with the Smart Cinema Club are eligible to win free Cats & Dogs premium items.
2. Draw date will be on August 16, 2001. Winners will be notified by text message, a call to their registered mobile number and through registered mail.
3. Winners will receive their prizes by mail no later than September 16, 2001.

See flyers for details.

All text messages sent will be charged P2.50 each. Logos, graphics, picture messages and screensavers are P12.00 each.
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BUSINESS

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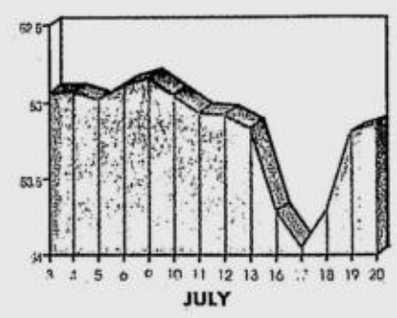
Peso-Dollar Rate

PESO - DOLLAR



GRAPHS BY ROBERT B. ANDRES

₱53.15 = $1
As of 5 p.m., July 20, 2001

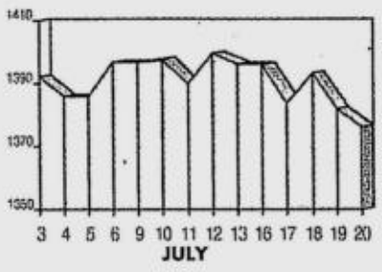
¥123.64 = $1
The US dollar was trading at 123.64 as of 5 p.m., July 19, 2001

GOLD:$269.10/270.10
per ounce Hong Kong, July 20, 2001

STOCK MARKET

Shares down

PSE Composite Index



SHARES closed mixed yesterday, with the main index posting a marginal loss on profit taking in select blue chips, traders said.

The 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange index closed down 5.51 points, or 0.4 percent to 1,376.36, adding to a 0.8-percent loss Thursday.

(See stock market report on Page B3)

Dragging down the index were blue chips SM Prime, which closed down 10 centavos, or 1.5 percent, at P6.50, while Ayala Corp. ended 20 centavos, or 3 percent, lower at P6.40.

"Most investors were sidelined ahead of the State of the Nation Address of President Macapagal-Arroyo Monday," said Equitable PCI Bank fund manager Edison Yap. "The market is waiting for specific action plans on how to address the weakness in consumer consumption and restore confidence in the economy."

Some investors found reason to accumulate stocks, which suffered heavy sell-offs in past sessions, as gainers outpaced decliners 29 to 26, while 43 issues were unchanged. *AP*

BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

THE BOARD of Investments yesterday reported that investments surged by more than 200 percent in the first six months this year to P35 billion, nearly three-fourths of its P50-billion target for the whole year.

Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas II said the substantial rise in registered investments during the first half of the year was a testament to the investors' continued confidence in the Macapagal administration.

Investments climbed 213 percent to P34.9 billion in the first half this year from P11.1 billion in 2000. These are expected to generate 13,239 new jobs.

Among the major ventures registered with the BOI during the first half were Smart Communication Inc.'s P17.1-billion expansion project; Rapu-Rapu Processing Inc.'s P2.4-billion mining project; Philweb.com Inc.'s P2.3-billion Internet project; PNOC Energy Development Corp.'s P2.2-billion project, and Ayalaport Makati Inc.'s P1.1-billion Internet project.

Based on equity investments, Filipinos accounted for the lion's share of P16.71 billion, pumped in during the first half this year. Foreign investors logged in only P2.42 billion.

Aside from the investments registered by the BOI, Roxas also cited those registered with the Philippine Economic Zone Authority which rose 19 percent to P19.8 billion in the first half this year from P16.5 billion in 2000.

"The BOI- and Peza-registered projects are long term bets on the country and should be seen as a vote of confidence in the economy," Roxas said.

Roxas released the investment figures following reports that investors' sentiments have turned from boom to gloom.

A semi-annual survey by the Makati Business Club, whose members are heads of the country's top 1,000 corporations, showed that investor confidence has turned from boom to gloom as initial exuberance from the installation of the new administration fizzled out.

Former BOI managing head and current Energy Secretary Vince Perez previously discounted this year as a "transition period" and was looking toward a more explosive growth in the next three years.

PESO DEFENSE

Gov't rushes $1.3B in borrowings

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance yesterday said it would speed up the process of borrowing about $1.3 billion to help boost the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' war chest for the defense of the peso against speculative attacks.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho told reporters that the national government had just registered an $800-million bond issue application with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

The final amount of the bond issue is $300 million more than what was originally planned which was $500 million. It was increased in anticipation of oversubscription.

Camacho said the DOF would also accelerate the implementation of a plan to borrow as much as $500 million using as collateral the expected earnings of the government from the Malampaya natural gas project.

The DOF vowed to support efforts to beef up the country's dollar reserves after Malacañang, prompted by the peso fall to 54.335 to the dollar on Tuesday, instructed the BSP to intervene in the foreign exchange market aggressively.

"We want to do it (the borrowings) as quickly as possible. We want to provide the BSP with enough resources to improve its liquidity," said the finance secretary.

CAMACHO

Camacho said the DOF has already been working out the details of the borrowings.

In a related development, the finance department also agreed to let Treasury bill rates go up slightly to lure back funds into the T-bill market from the foreign exchange market.

The financial market was expecting the $800 million worth of bond issue to be concluded ahead of the Malampaya-backed borrowing which was also scheduled for this year.

Camacho said the DOF had received several proposals from investment banks on the securitization of the government's future earnings from the Malampaya project.

The government is expected to earn from the Malampaya natural gas project, largely in the form of royalty, $13 billion in the next 20 years starting this year. Camacho said the plan was to raise between $200 million to $500 million from the securitization of Malampaya earnings.

Camacho said the measures being taken by the BSP and the DOF should be enough to buoy the peso back to a level that will be more reflective of the country's fundamentals.

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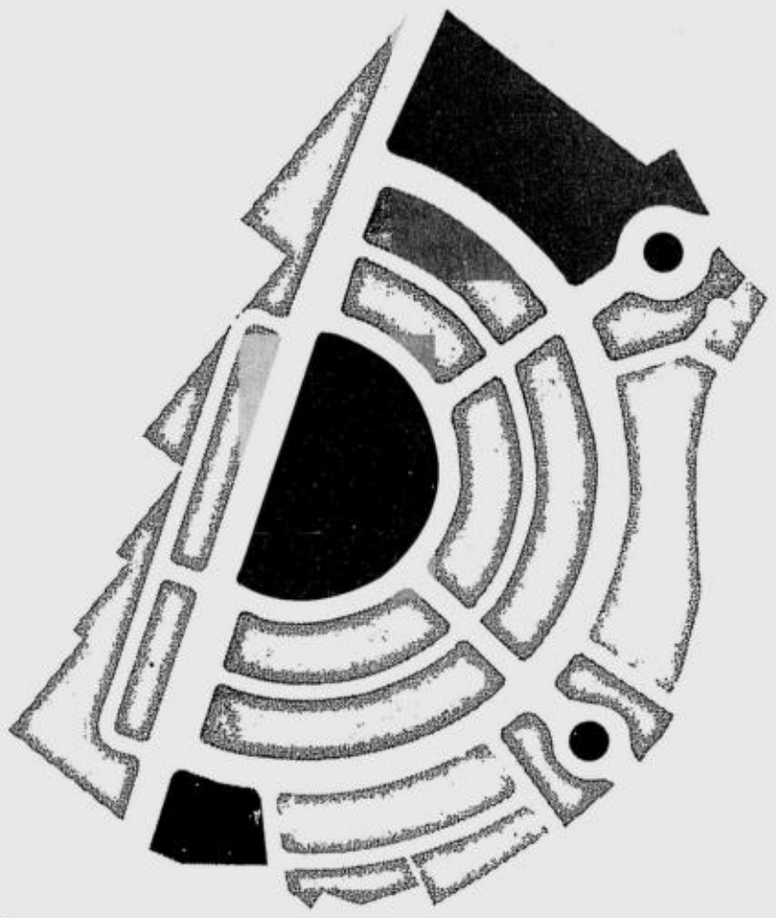

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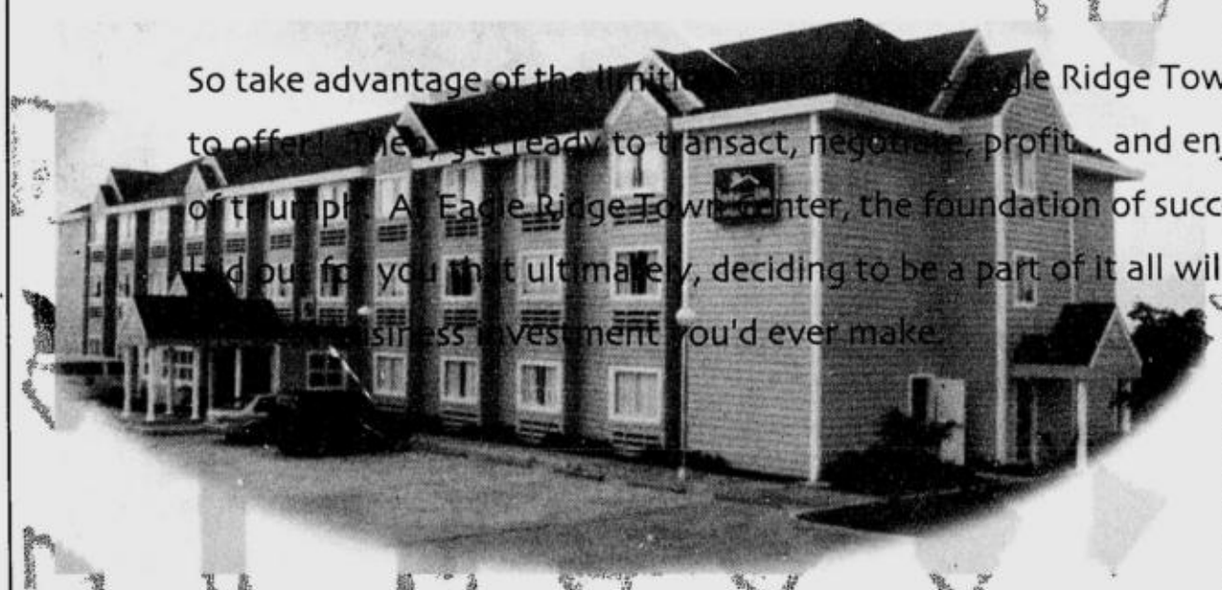

Actual photo of Microtel Inn & Suites

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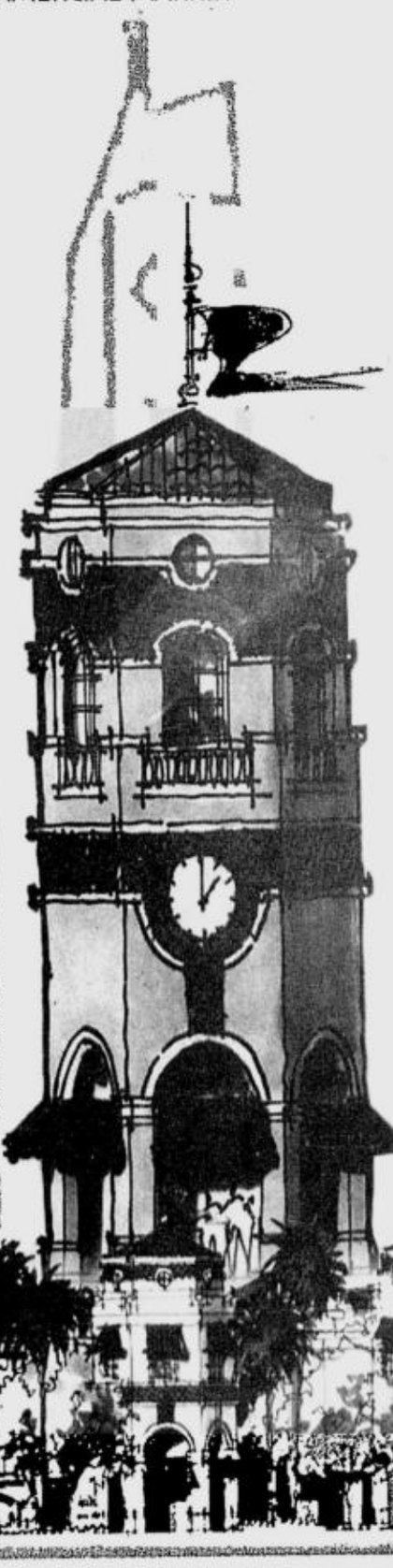
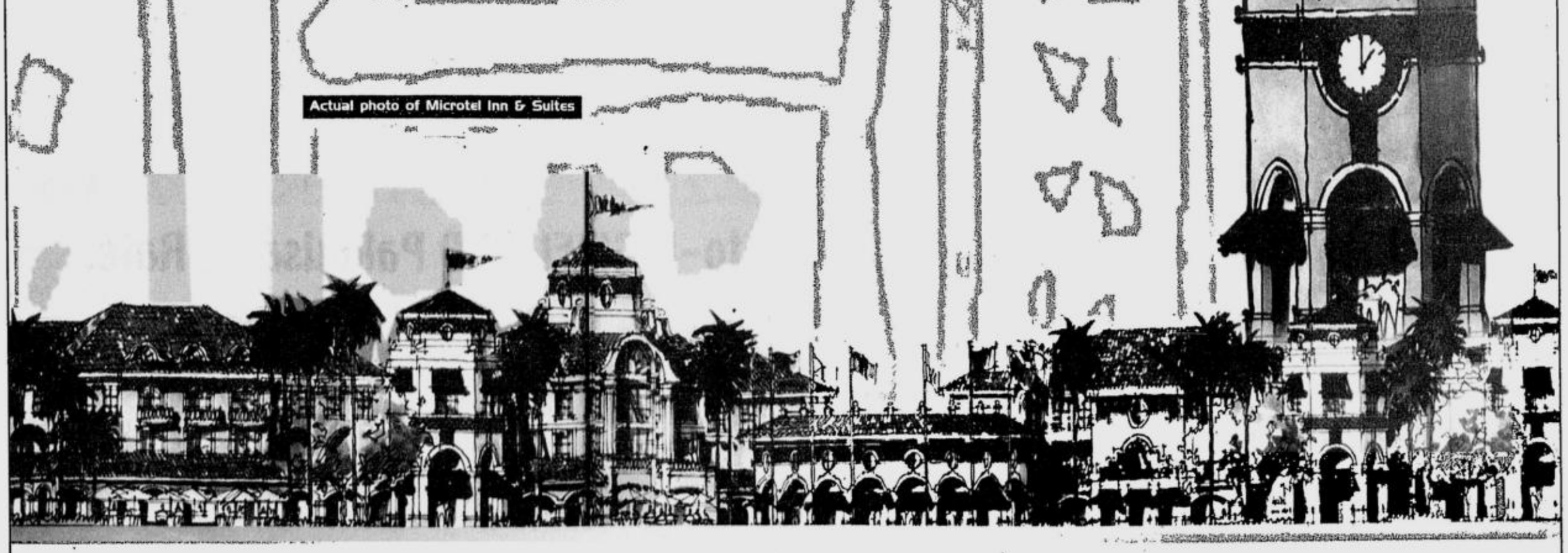
- EAGLE RIDGE PARK
- COMMERCIAL-RETAIL
- OFFICE-MIXED USE
- HOTEL
- SCHOOL
- COMMUNITY FACILITY
- COMMERCIAL-MARKET





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Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Friday, July 20, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	4.8	4.85	4.8	4.85	25,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	69	69	68	68.5	488,700
China Banking Corp.	610	610	610	610	220
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	36.5	36.5	36	36	363,500
First E-Bank Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	4,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	206	208	205	206	43,250
Philippine National Bank	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.5	1,000
Phil. Savings Bank	29.5	30	29.5	30	15,800
Union Bank of the Phil.	25	25	25	25	300
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	57,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	220	220	220	220	300
Manulife Financial Corp.	1440	1440	1440	1440	230
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1230	1265	1230	1265	3,130
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5	7,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.47	0.5	0.47	0.5	350,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	670	670	670	670	1,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.039	0.04	0.039	0.04	1,000,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	35,200,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	665	675	665	670	45,220
Ivantage Corp.	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82	10,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.034	0.034	0.033	0.033	22,300,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	37.5	38	37.5	37.5	2,400
Manila Electric Co. B	48.5	49	48	48.5	458,100
Petron Corp.	2.02	2.02	2	2	1,229,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.18	2.22	2.18	2.2	859,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	100,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED		PRODUC		TS	
Alsons Cement Corp.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	100,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	240,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	45,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.06	2.06	2.02	2.02	725,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	4.7	4.75	4.65	4.65	603,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.5	13.75	13.5	13.75	242,800
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	26.5	26.5	26	26.5	16,000
RFM Corp.	2.46	2.48	2.42	2.42	2,746,000
San Miguel Corp. A	43.5	43.5	43	43	104,500
San Miguel Corp. B	53	54	53	54	201,700
Vitarich Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	10,000
Ayala Corp.	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.4	4,014,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.16	97,010,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	133,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	1.3	1.34	1.28	1.32	1,712,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.006	0.0075	0.006	0.007	791,000,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.9	1.98	1.9	1.9	9,619,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.155	60,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	100,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	200,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	31	32	31	32	367,100
Global Equities Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	200,000
Guoco Holdings (Phils.)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	170,000
House of Investments Inc.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	20,000
Ipeople Inc.	1.18	1.24	1.18	1.24	12,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.58	10,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.71	0.71	0.7	0.7	3,260,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.44	0.45	0.44	0.45	1,010,000
Philtread Holdings Corp.	6	6	6	6	12,000
Tanduay Holdings Inc.	6	6.1	6	6	110,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Music Corp.	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	40,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.73	0.75	0.71	0.71	780,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	200,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	15	15	15	15	80,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.51	900,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.49	0.49	780,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.49	0.5	0.49	0.5	20,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5	467,200
Equitable PCI Bank-War	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	342,000
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	1,000,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10	10	10	10	1,000
Philweb.Com Inc. -Warrants	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	10,300,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.95	4.95	4.9	4.9	3,079,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	70,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.27	1,090,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.29	280,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.08	2.08	2.02	2.02	2,525,000
SM Development Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	20,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.5	4,730,000
Universal Rightfield Prop	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1,000,000
Urbancorp Realty Dev. Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.44	0.44	100,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	1,000,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc B	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	7,000,000
Atogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.05	0.0525	0.049	0.0525	61,200,000
Iepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	1,020,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	3,500,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	5,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0042	0.0042	0.004	0.0042	86,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	5,500,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.45	0.48	0.45	0.47	1,580,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.51	0.51	0.49	0.51	1,470,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	4,500,000
Interport Res.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	5,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.005	0.0055	0.005	0.0055	6,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	5,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	1,000,000
Pacifica	0.017	0.017	0.016	0.016	9,000,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.22	600,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	1,002,430	60,815,570.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	990,627,420	210,309,575.00
PRO	12,894,000	51,721,180.00
Mining	173,270,000	5,972,250.00
OIL	31,100,000	466,600.00
GRAND TOTALS :	1,209,048,850	329,665,175.00

	AVERAGES	
Banks & Fin Svc	555.84	DOWN 1.17
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,957.56	DOWN 4.54
PRO	518.93	DOWN 4.80
Mining	1,441.06	UP 7.03
OIL	1.76	DOWN 0.02
All Shares Index	795.67	DOWN 5.30
Composite	1,376.36	DOWN 5.51

NO. OF ADVANCES: 29; NO. OF DECLINES: 26; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 43; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 98 NO. OF TRADES: 2,185

CURRENCIES

Jul-20-2001 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.147315	1.000000	53.3160
Japan	Yen	0.009301	0.008107	0.4322
United Kingdom	Pound	1.638825	1.428400	76.1566
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.147103	0.128215	6.8359
Switzerland	Franc	0.664494	0.579173	30.8792
Canada	Dollar	0.745010	0.649351	34.6208
Singapore	Dollar	0.628459	0.547765	29.2046
Australia	Dollar	0.588910	0.513294	27.3668
Bahrain	Dinar	3.043439	2.652661	141.4293
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.306769	0.267380	14.2556
Brunei	Dollar	0.625411	0.545108	29.0630
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000102	0.000089	0.0047
Thailand	Baht	0.025106	0.021882	1.1667
UAE	Dirham	0.312450	0.272331	14.5196
Korea	Won	0.000886	0.000772	0.0412
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.871600	46.4702
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.445642	23.7598
France	Franc	0.152450	0.132875	7.0844
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.395515	21.0873
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.063342	3.3771
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.021606	1.1519
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000450	0.0240
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.146593	7.8158
Portugal	Escudo	0.004989	0.004348	0.2318
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005238	0.2793
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.021606	1.1519
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.106704	59.0050

Spark of the game

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

LET'S go over this "confidence" thing quickly. Then we can go back to our lives. We can then continue to get sick.

Only the other day, it had to rain again. The weather just does not get it. When it rains, we cannot get a ride home. Thus, we wade through flood and garbage.

Anyway, according to a survey done by the Makati Business Club, the former best friend of the man named Band . . . Wrist Band, business confidence is waning.

Responding to the survey, which was done among the MBC's deeply concerned and highly dependable members, was 20 percent only. Very enthusiastic, huh?

* * *

THIS newspaper's headline writer, I thought, really did a good job. The headline said something about the mood in business going from boom to gloom.

Well, didn't the respondents already lower their forecasts for economic growth? I don't know, but for me it's hard to call such a change of heart as being upbeat.

My longtime friend and colleague, presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao, insists that business has confidence in this cute administration of Gloriaetta.

All right, technically, that's correct! The survey simply did not touch on politics. The survey was not pitting this cute administration against, say, Wrist Band's.

* * *

BUSINESS is just losing confidence, period! This much is clear in the survey. And the message should be clear enough: Do we have a big problem, boss?

For if it was anything, maybe the MBC survey just affirmed what other surveys had been saying all along. And that is, the general mood in business is down.

Methinks it should alarm the Palace. Business already thinks that economic prospects are bad. So nobody invests and prospects turn worse. A vicious cycle, boss.

Next thing you know, they will blame this administration. It's all just part of the game. For who is running the economy? Don't tell me it's Jaime Cardinal Sin.

* * *

AGAIN, Bobi Tiglao was correct. Bad prospects here had a lot to do with the slump abroad, mainly in the United States, Japan and Europe. Well, they only buy our products.

Precisely, given the gloom in the world economy, corporate think tanks and economists are saying that this cute administration should do something for a change.

UP economics professor Emmanuel de Dios, for instance, questions why this cute administration even anchors our economic growth on exports and foreign investments.

We have little control, if any at all, over those things. So it's like doing something about your heart condition by relying on the fitness of your barangay captain.

* * *

AS IT is, for us to move up, this cute administration keeps on hoping for a US recovery. All right, the US owns the world, but can't we at least do a little planning of our own?

There may be rumors about the existence of an economic plan, but De Dios, for one, thinks it's a mere amalgam. You know—like halo-halo!

This administration inherited a big budget deficit, true, but now this is nobody else's problem but its own. What to do? Focus, to De Dios, is the answer.

A chopsuey plan, by definition, lacks focus. Yet, focus is the only way this cute administration can achieve something that business is dying to see. And that is, a spark.

* * *

BEING an economist, De Dios refers to such a spark as "key reforms," which can prop up business. It's hard to be upbeat when all you hear about are, well, visits to squatter areas.

For the real problem goes something like this: The economy is slow, which makes business downhearted, which makes the economy even slower, et cetera.

Thus, spark is the name of game. In other words, big key reforms are a good way to break the vicious cycle. At least business can see some big bold concrete action.

De Dios thinks that key reforms must be done in: 1) agriculture and 2) tax collection. Hmm. One is good for farmers, but the other is bad for the Makati crowd.

* * *

SO this cute administration is caught in a trap. Everybody has been saying that time will come when it will no longer blame everything on Wrist Band. That time is now.

It cannot aim for high growth. It cannot jumpstart the economy with government spending. Poor prospects only mean nobody moves. Not even this cute administration.

De Dios notes a "creeping sense of inertia and growing cynicism that, Edsa notwithstanding, no major changes are impending." This, he thinks, is the main danger.

Yet due to recent trouble from Wrist Band's followers, according to De Dios, we see a lot of high-profile "tokenism" with the poor. Meaning, well, visits to squatter areas.

* * *

IN THE company Philcomsat, as you know, the government claims to own at least 35 percent. Thus, the Palace gets to appoint a number of its directors.

Waddayano, word is out that one of the "appointees" of this cute administration is somebody who already sat in the board during the time of Wrist Band. Recycled? Again?

Anyway, not too long ago, during the time of Wrist Band, the government already kicked out a group of Philcomsat directors who were suspected of . . . well, bad things.

It seems that, among themselves, they decided that the company should buy a big lot to build its head office somewhere in the rural areas of Metro Manila called Las Piñas.

* * *

MY source said even Wrist Band, despite what had been said and done about and to him, was so displeased by the lot purchase that he fired the same group of directors.

Well, the lot was all of six hectares of raw land, and Philcomsat was to pay P900 million for it. That's a very cheap price of P15,000 per square meter. Raw land!

Fortunately for the directors, Wrist Band had to be sent home and, eventually, sent to jail in a government hospital with an 18-hole golf course.

By some strange machinations, the directors kept their positions. By some strange connection to this cute administration, it looks like they are bound to keep them again.

ANGLO PHILIPPINE HOLDINGS CORPORATION
AN INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

To All Stockholders:

Please be advised that the annual meeting of the stockholders of **ANGLO PHILIPPINE HOLDINGS CORPORATION** will be held on Friday, July 27, 2001, at 3:00 p.m., at the Boracay I & II Rooms, Shangri-La EDSA Plaza Hotel, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City.

The following is the agenda of the meeting:

1. Call to order
2. Proof of notice and certification of quorum
3. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting of the stockholders
4. Management Report and Audited Financial Statements for year ended December 31, 2000
5. Ratification of Previous Corporate Acts
6. Election of Directors
7. Appointment of External Auditors
8. Other Matters
9. Adjournment

For purposes of the meeting, stockholders of record as of June 25, 2001 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the said meeting. Registration for the said meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. For convenience in registering your attendance, please have available some form of identification, such as a driver's license, voter's ID, TIN card, SSS card or passport.

If you will not be able to attend the meeting but would like to be represented thereat, you may submit your proxy form, duly signed and accomplished, to the Corporate Secretary at the 6th Floor, Quad Alpha Centrum, 125 Pioneer Street, Mandaluyong City, no later than July 17, 2001. Management would like to solicit your proxy to vote on the above matters and a proxy form is enclosed for this purpose.

Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines, June 20, 2001.

(Sgd.) ROBERTO V. SAN JOSE
Corporate Secretary

SQL up on first trading day

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

SOFTWARE service firm SQL Wizard Inc., the first small and medium-scale enterprise to go public this year, debuted successfully yesterday with share prices soaring 48 percent on its first trading day.

SQL Wizard's successful initial public offering also marked the inauguration of the Philippine Stock Exchange's SME board, which was opened to companies with at least P20 million to P100 million in capital.

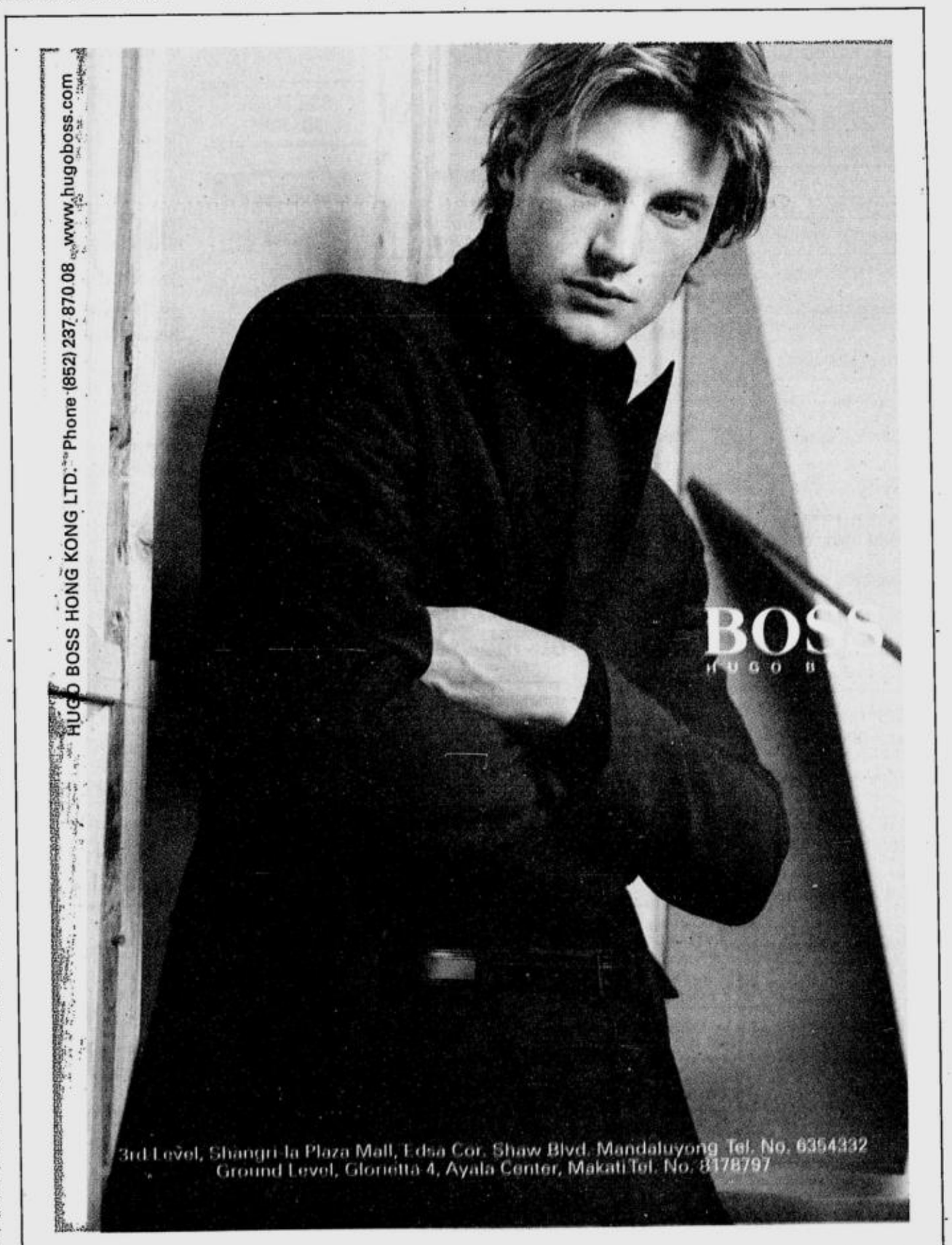
SQL Wizard shares closed at P2.60 each yesterday, 84 centavos above its IPO price of P1.75 per share. Trading of its shares, however, was suspended after prices rose by over 50 percent.

To prevent malpractice and abuse in stock trading, the PSE freezes trading of a listed firm's shares when their prices rise or fall by over 50 percent.

President Macapagal-Arroyo and Finance Secretary were on hand during the launching of the SME board.

"SMEs are the backbone of the economy, employing 67 percent of the labor force and contributing 33 percent of the country's value added," Camacho said. "The development of SMEs, therefore, translates to creation of jobs, a robust export sector and a more equitable distribution of the country's economic gains."

"Given these outcomes, the administration is bent on empowering the SMEs by promoting a business environment conducive to their expansion, building infrastructure that would assist SMEs to be globally competitive, creating a competent human resource base for SMEs and providing them access to financing," he said.



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PERSONAL

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(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT)
BATASAN PAMBANSA COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS, QUEZON CITY

The Early Childhood Development Project is in need of three (3) individual-consultants to undertake the Mid-Term Review of the Project being implemented in Region VI, VII and XII.

A. Team Leader (Project Management and Evaluation Specialist)

1. The Team Leader must have 5-10 years proven satisfactory track record in Project Management and Evaluation of social development projects involving national government agencies and local government units.
2. Must have at least four years experience in working on foreign-assisted projects (i.e., World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international financing institutions) and familiarity with Government (national and local) processes and procedures.
3. Must have no prior or existing work contracts with the Project.
4. Must be of good moral character.
5. Preferably proficient in any of the local dialects (i.e., Cebuano, Ilongo/Hiligaynon, Maranaw and Maguindanao).
6. Willingness to travel to the project sites.

B. Early Childhood Development Specialist

1. Must have 5-10 years professional experience in center-based and community-based Early Childhood Development programs and projects.
2. Must have at least two years experience in working on foreign-assisted projects (i.e., World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international financing institutions) and familiarity with Government (national and local) processes and procedures.
3. Must have no prior or existing work contracts with the Project.
4. Must be of good moral character.
5. Preferably proficient in any of the local dialects (i.e., Cebuano, Ilongo/Hiligaynon, Maranaw and Maguindanao).
6. Willingness to travel to the project sites.

C. Financial Management Specialist

1. Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and preferably an MBA degree holder.
2. Must have 5-10 years professional experience in project financial management organization, internal control, accounting system, financial management reporting, financial analysis, cash asset and liability management and proper auditing arrangement.
3. Must have at least four years experience in working on foreign-assisted projects (i.e., World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international financing institutions) and familiarity with Government (national and local) processes and procedures.
4. Must have no prior or existing work contracts with the Project.
5. Must be of good moral character.
6. Preferably proficient in any of the local dialects (i.e., Cebuano, Ilongo/Hiligaynon, Maranaw and Maguindanao).
7. Willingness to travel to the project sites.

The engagement is for a period of four months from August to November 2001.

You may send your curriculum vitaé and work resumé with letter of intent and samples of previous work engagements, to: **The Project Manager, ECD Project Management Office, 4th Floor, DSWD Building, Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City**, or thru e-mail address: npmo@ecd.gov.ph on or before July 27, 2001. No application will be entertained by phone.

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The Jewish Association of the Philippines, Inc. and Mr. and Mrs. **Peter Farquhar (Mary)**, announce with great sorrow the passing away of the oldest member of the congregation:

Mrs. Paula K. Brings

on July 17, 2001

The funeral will take place on Sunday, July 22, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. at the North Cemetery.

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FELIAS "BIBOY" ITCHON DIAZ

Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord on July 19, 2001 at the age of 45.

He is survived by his mother **Jovita**; wife **Nellie**; children **Faye, Apet, Miko** and **Syringe**; sisters and brothers-in-law **Emily** and **Juanito Madlanghuyan, Macy** and **Tus Mamaril, Babes** and **Andy Deapera, Inday, Nenet** and **Romeo Carandang, Rose** and **Celso Balunga, Nita, Marlevic** and **Joel Nano**, and **Jane** and **Manuel Juan**; nephews, nieces, father and mother-in-laws.

His remains lie in state at Diaz residence, Aringay, La Union.

Interment will be on Monday, July 22, 2001 at the Aringay Municipal Cemetery after the 8:00 AM Mass at the St. Lucy Parish Church, Aringay, La Union.

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Mr. Ferdinand Mercado
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G. Penaflor Street
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Tel. No. (032) 232-7618
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Mr. Raymund Mercado
Hi-Top News Mag and Gen. Merchandise
Dr. V. Locsin Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 225-5796/225-4364
Mr. Ramon Charles Sy
New Renie's
Dr. V. Locsin Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 225-4320
Iloilo
Eddie-Mar News and Magazine Center
Ground Floor, Bombo Radio Building
Mapa Street, Iloilo City
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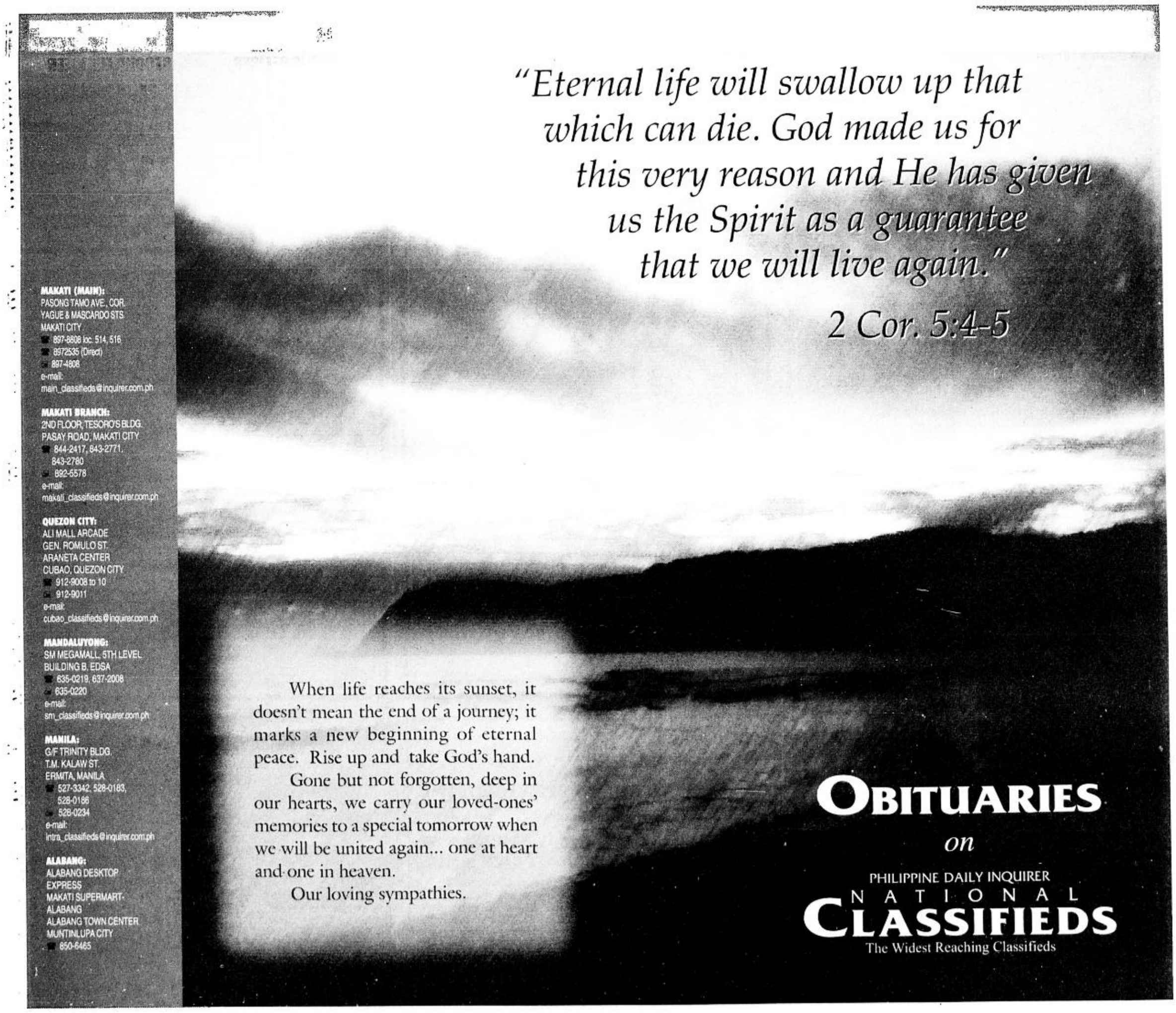

Republic of the Philippines
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
Quezon City

INVITATION TO BID
REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT

The Social Security System is inviting offers to purchase by way of sealed bids the following properties:

LIST OF SSS ACQUIRED ASSETS FOR PUBLIC BIDDING

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION OF PROPERTY	MINIMUM BID
1.	264 sq.m. TCT No. T-127938 Lot only	Lot 12 Blk 13 San Felipe Subd Mojon, Malolos, Bulacan	P 528,000.00
2.	120 sq.m. TCT No. 407867 w/ 1T&B bungalow	Lot 6 Monterey Hills Subd. Nangka, San Mateo, Rizal	227,900.00
3.	289 sq.m. TCT No. 348485(M) Lot only	Lot 21 Blk. 2 Bernardo Subd. (Tubigan) Gaya-gaya, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan	578,000.00
4.	111 sq.m. TCT No. 210905 w/ 2BR and 1T&B fairly maintained bungalow	Lot 2-1-2 No. 77-B Anita Diaz (Torres) Cmpd., Mangahan Poblacion Montalban, Rizal	466,300.00
5.	233 sq.m. TCT No. V-46643 w/ 3BR and 1T&B poorly maintained bungalow	Lot 3-A-3 Ugong Sulok Valenzuela City	922,300.00
6.	197 sq.m. TCT No. T-440309 unfinished/deteriorated bungalow	Lot 1 Blk. 20 Georgetown Heights Molino Bacoor, Cavite	552,300.00
7.	240 sq.m. TCT No. 382983 w/ 2BR and 1T&B poorly maintained bungalow	Lot 1A-10 Alberto Cmpd. Burgos, Montalban, Rizal	488,600.00
8.	134 sq.m. TCT No. 409378 w/ 1BR and 1T&B fairly maintained bungalow	Lot 10-A Saguitarius Street Life Homes Subd., Ampid San Mateo, Rizal	442,000.00
9.	169 sq.m. TCT No. 409379 w/ 2BR and 1T&B poorly maintained bungalow	Lot 1-C 10-B-5-D Blk 5 Espiritu Cmpd., Poblacion Montalban, Rizal	475,900.00
10.	193 sq.m. TCT No. 114118 w/ 2BR and 1T&B poorly maintained one-storey residential unit	Lot 1 Blk. 2 Bgy. Malabanas Angeles City	338,000.00
11.	529 sq.m. TCT No. 114494 w/ 2BR and 1T&B fairly maintained one-storey residential unit	Lot 49 Blk. 14 Plaridel Subd. II Amsic, Angeles City	1,250,800.00
12.	205 sq.m. TCT No. 11495 w/ 2BR and 1T&B fairly maintained one-storey residential unit	Lot 8-B Blk, 4 Esperanza Subd. Amsic, Angeles City	559,000.00
13.	200 sq.m. TCT No. 114493 w/ 4BR and 2T&B fairly maintained one-storey residential unit	Lot 3 Blk. 2 Saudi Village Malabanas, Angeles City	429,600.00
14.	300 sq.m. TCT No. 114347 w/ 2BR and 1T&B poorly maintained bungalow	Lot 25 Blk. 22 Zurich St. Don Bonifacio Subd., Balibago Angeles City	779,500.00
15.	312 sq.m. TCT No. 490923-R Lot only	Lot 1 Blk. 9 Jose P. Laurel St. Iba, Tabun, Mabalacat, Pampanga	62,400.00
16.	240 sq.m. TCT No. 493589-R w/ 4BR and 2T&B fairly maintained one-storey residential unit	Lot 27 Blk, 6 Golden Land Subd. Mabiga, Mabalacat, Pampanga	616,300.00
17.	153 sq.m. TCT No. 492895-R w/ 4BR and 2T&B maintained bungalow	Lot 3826-J-2 Purok Gloria Subd. Sindalan, San Fernando Pampanga	293,800.00
18.	335 sq.m. TCT No. 454491-R Lot only	Lot 1-A-3-A Farmersville Bo. Maisac, Mabalacat Pampanga	P227,000.00
19.	150 sq.m. TCT No. 477787-R Lot only	Lot 9 Blk. 10 San Isidro Subd. San Isidro, San Fernando Pampanga	120,000.00
20.	200 sq.m. TCT No. 114346 w/ 4BR and 2T&B fairly maintained one-storey duplex	Lot 20 Blk. 2 Bgy. Saudi Malabanas, Angeles City	499,100.00
21.	180 sq.m. TCT No. 486544-R w/ 2BR and 1T&B poorly maintained bungalow	Lot 30 Blk. 8 Fil Homes Mabiga, Mabalacat, Pampanga	249,400.00
22.	300 sq.m. TCT No. 114709 Lot only	Lot 19 Blk. 23 Copenhagen St. Don Bonifacio Subd., Balibago Angeles City	630,000.00
23.	350 sq.m. TCT No. 480103-R w/ 4BR and 2T&B poorly maintained bungalow	Lot 2 Blk. 7 Sto. Niño Subd. Sta. Cruz, Porac, Pampanga	495,500.00
24.	180 sq.m. TCT No. 386532-R w/ 2BR and 1T&B deteriorated bungalow	Lot 34 Blk. 14 No. 16 Henson St. Fatima Village, Phase 1-A Sta. Cruz, Porac, Pampanga	113,600.00

Complete description of the properties including Building Forms and Instructions to Bidders are available at the Real Estate Department, 5th Floor, SSS Building, East Avenue, Quezon City. Please contact Mr. Tomas M. Ramirez at Telephone No. 920-64-01 local 2216, 2218, 2219 and 2220.

Sealed bids should be dropped at the Bid Box located at the Real Estate Department, 5th Floor, SSS Building, Quezon City, from **8:00 A.M. to 1:59 P.M.** on 16 August 2001. The bids should be labeled Acquired Assets Disposal Committee, Social Security System, East Avenue, Quezon City.

Bidder's deposit, equivalent to at least 10% of the bid price in cash (Philippine money/ U.S. dollar) or in Certified Manager's/Cashier's Check in favor of SSS must be enclosed with the sealed bid. (Any other form or draft purportedly as manner of payment is not acceptable). The bidder must also sign the sealed envelope across its flap. Sealed bid without the bidder's bond will not be entertained.

The Award shall be granted to the highest bidder.

The sale of the properties shall be "As Is, Where Is" and the winning bidder shall undertake the responsibility to acquire and maintain peaceful possession and enjoyment of the property without seeking the assistance of the SSS.

After deducting the bid deposit from the Bid Price, the balance shall be payable in cash within 30 days or an option to amortize within 12 months at 13% rate of interest per annum compounded monthly upon receipt of notice of approval.

The system reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any defect found therein.

All awards shall be subject to the approval of the Social Security Commission whose decision shall be final and binding on all concerned.

(Sgd.) **AVP ANTONETTE FERNANDEZ**
Vice-Chairperson
Acquired Assets Disposal Committee

(PDI--July 21, 2001)

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DISPOSAL SALE

USAID/Manila will conduct a Sealed Bid Sale of used office and residential furniture/equipment, appliances and computer equipment on an "AS IS-WHERE IS" basis.

All items can be inspected on July 23-25, 2001 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at USAID Warehouse, 2345 Aurora Blvd., (formerly Tramo St.) Pasay City. Bid forms are available at the site. Submission of bids and cash deposits (20% of the total bid) can be done at the site during the sale. Full payment and bid deposit refunds will be on July 26, 2001 at 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the USAID/Cashier, 8th floor, PNB Financial Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

For further information and lot descriptions, please call Mr. Manuel Fidel C. Holandez and Mr. Alfredo Q. Daluz at Tel. Nos. 831-2271, 514-4229, 514-4234 and 514-4236.

(PDI--July 21 & 22, 2001)

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
319 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 844-6913; 844-4610 (Direct Lines)
818-9411 to 20; 812-2008 & 843-7831 Locals 2320 & 2308

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals together with 10% bid bond for the purchase on CASH BASIS of the Bank properties listed below will be received at the **LBP Multi-Purpose Hall, Wings A & B Bldg.** I not later than August 02, 2001 @ 2:00 p.m. at which place, date and time, said proposals will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

In case of closely **clustered top bids** (defined as having the second highest bid which is not below 90% of the highest bid), the opening of the sealed bids will be immediately followed by an open auction in which all bidders whose bids are not below 80% of the highest bid may participate. **The minimum increase in the open bidding should not be lower than P1,000.**

	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID
1)	739 shares of stock of Subic Bay Yacht Club		P 1,437,000 per share
2)	1999 blue "Ford" Expedition XLT 4x4 A/T with Plate No. WGY-868	Parking area, LBP Bldg. 4, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City	1,008,000
3)	1997 black "Mitsubishi" Pajero (Intercooler Turbo) with Plate No. UDB 297	Basement, Century Tower Condo. #100 Tordesillas St., cor. HV. Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City	630,000
4)	1997 red "Nissan Terrano" M/T with Plate No. UPC-401	- do -	420,000
5)	1997 apollo sliver "Mitsubishi" L300 Vvan, diesel fed with Plate No. DRR-706 (Note: Per OR/CR Plate No. is DRN-706)	LBP Warehouse, Escala St., Bo. Mambugan, Antipolo City	252,100
6)	1997 gray "Mitsubishi" Lancer GL M/T 1.5 4 door sedan with Plate No. UPZ-387	- do -	225,000
7)	1996 green "Nissan Sentra" M/T with Plate No. PWM-505	Basement, Century Tower Condo. #100 Tordesillas St., cor. HV. Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City	221,000
8)	1992 metallic green "Nissan Sentra" Sedan with Plate No. FDB 303	LBP-Plaza, Libertad Branch, Iloilo City	120,000
9)	Ten (10) residential condo units with parking slots (PS):		
	Unit No. 5A/PS 26&27-B4 - 149 sq.m.	& Wack-Wack Road, Mandaluyong City	7,977,500
	Unit No. 5B/PS 28&29-B4 - 146 "		7,835,000
	Unit No. 6G/PS 30&31-B4 - 146 "		7,908,000
	Unit No. 7C/PS 32&33-B4 - 174 "		9,339,000
	Unit No. 7F/PS 34&35-B4 - 174 "		9,339,000
	Unit No. 7G/PS 36&37-B4 - 146 "		7,981,000
	Unit No. 30C/PS 47$48-B4 - 174 "		13,241,000
	Unit No. 30D/PS 49-B4 - 108 "		6,120,000
	Unit No. 30E/PS 50-B4 - 108 "		6,120,000
	Unit No. 31E/PS 51-B4 - 108 "		6,174,000
10)	90.70-sq.m. parcel of land with one (1) unit townhouse identified as (Unit I)	254 Menlo corner Donada Streets, Brgy. San Jose, Pasay City	2,588,000
11)	280-sq.m. lot with bungalow type residential bldg.	Regina K. Lirag St., within BF Homes Subd., (Ph-I) San Dionisio, Parañaque	2,240,000
12)	221-sq.m. land with 2-storey residential bldg.	Romulo Street, BF Resort Village, Las Piñas City	2,146,000
13)	41,033-sq.ms. agricultural land	Buli, La Paz, Abra	1,870,750
14)	204-sq.m. parcel of land with 2-storey residential building	Sampaguita corner Camia Streets, Greenland Subd. Phase II, Cainta, Rizal	1,870,000
15)	500-sq.m. lot with 1-storey resd'l bldg.	Nat'l Road, San Guillermo, Morong, Rizal	878,000
16)	354-sq.m. lot	Guillermo Subd. I, Old Sta. Rita, San Miguel Bulacan	506,220
17)	Three (3) units, "United Shoe" Clicking Machine		13,500
18)	One (1) unit "Sanlee" Cutting Press Machine		9,000
19)	One (1) unit "Sanlee" Cutting Press Machine		9,000
20)	One (1) lot, Horizontal Conveyor		2,400
21)	One (1) unit "Seiko" Leatherette Cylinder Sewing Machine		2,400
22)	Eleven (11) units, "Seiko" Leatherette Cylinder Sewing Machine		26,400
23)	Two (2) units, "Kings" Single Postbed, Single Needle Sewing Machine	LBP Warehouse, Escala St., Bo. Mambugan, Antipolo City	5,000
24)	Two (2) units, "Kings" Single Post-type Single Needle High Speed Sewing Machine		3,000
25)	Six (6) sets, "Multi-tech" Single Postbed Double Needle High Speed Sewing Machine		12,000
26)	Two (2) sets, "Lordsun" Single/Double Needle High Speed Sewing Machine		2,400
27)	Two (2) sets, "Lordsun" Double Needle Flat Machine		3,200
28)	Two (2) units, "Vilh Pedersen" Edge Trimming Machine		9,600
29)	One (1) unit Kubota Gen Set 5.5 KVA with Serial No. 589836	2nd Floor, Consol Bank Bldg., San Mateo, Isabela	44,000
30)	Eight (8) units Kubota Gen Set 5.5 KVA	- do -	38,500 per unit

If for any reason the above-mentioned date is declared a non-working holiday, then the public bidding shall be held on the next working day at the same time and place aforementioned.

Bidding forms may be obtained from the Office of the Vice President, Special Assets Department (SPAD), Land Bank of the Philippines, Prospective bidders are enjoined to inspect the above listed properties before entering their bids. The sale of the properties shall be "AS-IS-WHERE-IS." The winning bidder/s shall take possession of the awarded properties without seeking assistance from the Bank. The award in favor of the winning bidder/s shall be subject to the approval of the LBP approving authorities/President of the Republic of the Philippines whenever applicable.

LAND BANK RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN AND TO ACCEPT THE BID MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE LBP SHALL BE FINAL AND BINDING.

ANTONIO T. HERNANDEZ
Chairman
Committee on Bids and Awards

(PDI -- July 21, 2001)

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528-0213, 527-3342

MEGAMALL
635-0219, 635-0220

Republic of the Philippines
SOCIAL SECURITY COMMISSION
Makati City

OLIMPIA P. SAGUSAY,
Petitioner,
- versus -
SSC CASE NO. 3-14496-96

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM,
LIZA VALENCIA (SAGUSAY),
VIRGINIA DEQUEÑO, for herself and in behalf of her minor children,
RANDY DONIE and SONNY RICK,
both surnamed SAGUSAY,
Repondents,
x----------x

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION ENTERED

TO: **LIZA VALENCIA (SAGUSAY)**
VIRGINIA DEQUEÑO for herself and in behalf of her minor children
RANDY DONIE and SONNY RICK,
both surnamed SAGUSAY

GREETINGS:

Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of June 2001, a **RESOLUTION**, consisting of 10 pages, was entered in the above-mentioned case, the dispositive portion of which reads as follows:

"**WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED**, this Commission finds, and so holds, that petitioner Olimpia Sagusay and her husband, Pedro Sagusay, together with the illegitimate minor children of Dionesio Sagusay, namely: Randy Donie and Sonny Rick, both surnamed Sagusay, are entitled to the lump sum benefit accruing from the death of Dionesio Sagusay, as secondary beneficiaries.

Accordingly, the SSS is hereby ordered to pay petitioner Olimpia Sagusay for herself, and as guardian of the aforenamed minor illegitimate children, and Pedro Sagusay, the lump sum death benefit. The SSS is further ordered to pay the petitioner the funeral benefit (as reimbursement of her share of the burial expenses), in accordance with its existing rules and regulations.

SO ORDERED."

Makati City, Philipplnes.

SOCIAL SECURITY COMMISSION

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG KAGALINGANG PAHLIPUNAN AT PAGPAPAUNLAD
(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT)
BATASAN PAMBANSA COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS
QUEZON CITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

July 17, 2001

Early Childhood Development Project
Loan No. ADF 1607

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has received a loan from the Asian Bank of the Philippines (ADB) in financing the Early Childhood Development Project (ECDP). Part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied for eligible payments for the Laboratory Service Contract for the Development of Micronutrient Field Test Kits as part of the Micronutrient Malnutrition Prevention and Control sub-component of the Project.
2. The Department of Social Welfare and Development, Project Management Office (PMO) of the FCDP, now invites sealed bids from eligible Laboratories to provide Consultancy Services for the Development of Micronutrient Field Test Kits.
3. Interested proponents may obtain further information and secure the complete set of bidding documents, upon presentation of a letter of intent, starting **July 23-27, 2001** from Ms. Ruth Limson-Marayag of the ECD Project Management Office at 4th Floor, DSWD Central Office, Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone nos. (632) 931-61-14/15, (632) 931-81-01 loc. 106 and fax no. (632) 9512806.
4. Technical and Financial Proposals must be received in separate sealed envelope (complete with all requirements) by Ms. R. Limson Marayag at the same address **not later than August 10, 2001, 3:00 p.m.** Bids must be accompanied by a bid security of two percent (2%) of total bid price. Late proposals will not be accepted.
5. Prior to submission of bid proposals, a **Pre-bid Conference will be held on July 31, 2001; 1:30 p.m. at the ECD Meeting Room, 4th Floor, DSWD Central Office, Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City.**
6. The DSWD Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality therein and/or accept the bids as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **LOURDES G. BALANON**
DSWD Assistant Secretary and Chairperson, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI--July 21 & 22, 2001)

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People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

World's greatest freshwater gamefish

THE PEACOCK bass (*Cichla spp.*) is a beautiful, most sought after gamefish in its native Tropical south America. It is actually not a bass but is considered to be the largest member of the Cichlidae family. The Amazonian Basin natives call it Pavon, Tucunare, or Lukanani. It got its common names of peacock bass, butterfly peacock and eyespot cichlid due to its basslike shape and the peacock feather "eyes" on the upper portion of its tail. Among the different gamefish in the Amazon Basin, the peacock bass has received the most publicity and praise because of its incredible topwater strikes termed by fishing enthusiasts as "explosive."

It has an astonishing ability to straighten stout saltwater hooks and can break heavy lines and leaders. Due to its remarkable fighting capability, it is considered as the world's greatest freshwater gamefish. It is a most preferred catch by fishermen due to its very good and tasty flesh. Some refer to it as "sweet fish." The size averages from 5 to 9 lbs at 12 inches to over 2 feet in length. The world record rod and line capture is 27 pounds caught in the Rio Negro, Brazil. A Time magazine article titled "The New Fishing Frontier" introduced the charm of the peacock bass to the world. Since then, the common wish of anglers in the Amazon Basin is, to quote, "If I am to catch but one fish, let it be a pavon."

Being a highly temperature-sensitive fish, peacock bass fingerlings up to 14 cm in length cannot tolerate temperature below 17°C. The lethal higher temperature is 37.9°C. The temperature range of Philippine freshwater bodies make it very ideal for the peacock bass. Provided with sufficient live food, the fish may grow to 25 to 30 cm (approximately 12 inches) in length and attain sexual maturity in 12 months. The peacock bass that was brought into the Philippines was intended for the home aquarium. Some of these imports survived and have bred successfully in 120 gallon glass tanks. They subsist on native guppies (guping canal) or feeder fish (culls) sold by goldfish breeders.

At par with largemouth bass and other freshwater game fishes in the country, the peacock bass may be stocked in privately owned lakes or bodies of water that have been pre-seeded with striped *tilapia* as their main prey. Depending upon the conditioning given the breeding pair, they spawn at intervals of from 27 to 40 days laying some 2,000 to 3,000 eggs that stick to the smooth flat substrate. The fry are free-swimming in nine days and will take newly hatched brine shrimp nauplii. In the wild, only a small percentage of the fry will survive to maturity as they too fall prey to some larger fishes or waterborne predators. If raised for food and game, it can provide the lake owner, his family and friends with unparalleled thrill and excitement of landing the most pugnacious and combative fresh water game fish. Call Magno B. Managbanag Jr. at 545-2865. Managbanag is a member of the Society of Philippine Aquarists (SPA).

EASTERN TELECOMS, BONIFACIO CABLE ONE SIGN MOU

Angelo C. Molato (seated, center left) Eastern Telecommunications Philippines Inc. (ETPI) chief operating officer and Vicente Ticsay III, (seated, center right) Bonifacio Cable One Corp. director signing the memorandum of understanding (MOU) allowing ETPI to interconnect its fiber optic facilities to BCOC's designated access points within the Bonifacio Global City (BGC). ETPI has been accredited by the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (Peza) to provide the same services within the e-Square IT Zone of Bonifacio Global City. Standing (from left) are Henry Sarmiento, ETPI operations senior manager; Philip San Luis, ETPI account manager (ISP group); Agnes Atienza-Gervacio, ETPI VP and head, corporate and major business unit; Joevel R. Rivera, ETPI VP for Internet Business Unit (IBU); Ma. Teresa Tabada, BCOC network planning manager; Jose Santos, FBDC corporate development manager; Rafael Fragante, FBDC marketing director and engineer Lito Viola, BCOC technical manager. Eastern Telecoms is the leading provider of Internet and data communications services and offers Access landline service in Manila and Caloocan.

Jurassic Park III promo at Storyland

IT'S one fun-tastic adventure in Storyland as Jurassic Park III makes its way to the country's most exciting indoor theme park with an exciting movie promo.

The fun begins at Storyland SM Southmall when the first 80 park guests who purchase Storyland's Funtasy Pass, or the first 20 park guests who purchase P180 worth of Storyland souvenir shop items, get two movie tickets to Jurassic Park III for free. The promo at Storyland SM Southmall starts July 27 until Aug. 1, 2001.

Over at Storyland SM City Fairview, the first 800 Ride-All-You-Can wristag holders, or those lucky first 100 shoppers of P180 worth items at the Storyland souvenir shop, get one ticket to watch Storyland's advance screening of Jurassic Park III at the SM City Fairview Cinema. Storyland's exciting "Jurassic Park III" promo is ongoing from July 10 to July 24, 2001.

Simplicity, creativity in one

FROM being a relatively unknown brand, Giordano became a household name in the Philippines, with the highest ownership and recall amongst all clothing brands in the country.

Its products showcase a wide array of basic and classic everyday wear built on shirts, polos, jeans, and khakis. These casual wears are worn often by those who choose to pair their essentials, but still value style with economy and simplicity.

The simplicity of design is created for "easy mix and match" that define one's own style.

Giordano's success can be mainly attributed to the company's strong business backbone and successful marketing mix.

In a span of three years, Giordano improved their manual processes into a fully computerized front and back-end system.

Giordano stores also became the company's most effective tool for advertising. Through capitalizing on their in-store design and window display, Giordano used photographic banners positioned with mannequins to showcase every two months highlight.

Such as in Giordano's flagship store at SM Megamall, considered as the biggest Giordano outlet among its 39 stores nationwide, the flagship store carries the widest collection of Giordano apparels and accessories.

Giordano's success in the country can also be attributed to TFB Inc. After its successful acquisition of the exclusive distribution rights to retail Giordnao products in the Philippines in 1989, TFB Inc. is responsible for receiving and dispatching Giordano items to their stores.

MOM'S FAVE IS DUMEX 1 PLUS

Like many mommies, this one takes her baby to a part of the grocery store that displays her favorite milk, Dumex 1 Plus. This milk is specially formulated for babies 1 to 3 years old. Formulated in accordance with US RDA (recommended dietary allowance), Dumex 1 Plus contains high quality protein for healthy growth and development. Two glasses of Dumex 1 Plus provides at least 70 percent of the essential nutrients needed by toddlers. Specifically, it has 15 vitamins and 12 minerals including calcium and iron for strong bones and teeth. It also contains Taurine which helps sustain optimal brain and retinal function and Beta Carotene, which supports immune functions. Finally, it has the right amount of fat to reduce the risk of childhood obesity. Dumex 1 Plus is now also available in delicious honey flavor.

Marilao KC induction

THE THREE-TIME Star Council awardee Knights of Columbus-San Miguel de Marilao Council 8581, District M-27, will hold its 18th installation of officers at 6 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, at the St. Michael Archangel Parish Church in Marilao, Bulacan.

District M-27 is composed of 328 council members in Bulacan, according to Marilao KC Grand Knight Remigio "Remy" San Luis who will welcome the guests during the reception at the Plaza Verde restaurant in Abangan Sur along MacArthur Highway.

A leading council in the district, the Marilao KC has for its members some of the town's leading socio-civic leaders including deputy Grand Knight Mario Gonzales, Feliberto Sarmiento, Bernardino Punzal, Ramon Antonio, Filemon Castro, Dante Adriano, Conrado Layug, Fernando Evangelista, Emilio Caisido Jr., Luke Resurreccion, Celedonio Aureada, Nelson San Pablo, Eufemio Magno, Maximo Espiritu, Danilo Pantaleon and Esteban Natividad III.

Also in the roster are Carlito Cabral, Angelito Agustin Antonio, Ladislao Octavo, Rogelio Garcia, John Paul Iyog, Antolin Garcia Jr., Abelardo Francisco, Michael Andres, Paciano Cortez, Renato Nieva, Leonardo Resurreccion, Arturo Gregorio Sr., Romeo Resurreccion, Maximo Mañez, Paulino Espiritu and Raul Peña. Fr. Avelino Santos is the council chaplain.

WG&A TIES UP WITH MICROSOFT

William Gothong and Abiotiz Inc. (WG&A), the largest passenger, transport and cargo shipping company in the country has teamed up with Microsoft, the world's leading software provider, to boost its Economic Value Added Data Warehousing project through the deployment of Microsoft Windows 2000 Server and SQL Server 2000. Present in the contract-signing were (seated from left) Mike Camahort, WG&A SVP and COO; Richard Francis, Microsoft Phils. managing director; Susan Valdez, WG&A chief finance officer; Cliff Eala, Sequel Solutions managing director; and Raffy Sanvictores, WG&A VP and COO. Standing (from left) Jess Santiago, Microsoft large account manager; Ava Engel, WG&A chief resource officer; Magdalena Anoos, WG&A for finance; Annacel Natividad, WG&A AVP for finance; and Raymund Huang, Microsoft enterprise customer group director.

Honda is a SuperBrand

HONDA is once again named a SuperBrand for the second consecutive year. The much-coveted award of excellence was conferred to Honda as one of the top-performing brands in the car category for the Philippine market by readers of Asia's most widely-read magazine, Reader's Digest. In addition, Honda was also voted across Asia as a SuperBrand in the same category. Honda is now a member of the elite circle of award winners in the SuperBrands 2001 survey.

The SuperBrands 2001 was a result of survey—which is one of the most comprehensive polls in Asia—conducted among Reader's Digest patrons in six Asian markets: Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand and the Philippines. The respondents freely named their most-preferred brand for the 38 categories of products and services. These brands were rated according to quality, value, strong image, trustworthiness and understanding of customers needs.

This vote of confidence on the Honda brand is a manifestation of its continuing commitment to provide only the best quality cars and excellent after-sales service and customer care activities to its valued customers, which Honda fondly calls the "Honda family."

GMP PHILS WINS AFD ID CONTRACT

Impressed with the capabilities of Fargo ID card printers, particularly it's security features, the Armed Forces of the Philippines chose GMP Philippines to handle their identification card requirements. All identification cards for enlisted personnel, reserves and beneficiaries will be printed using the Fargo ID card system. At least 5,000 cards every month will be printed for the AFP. A satellite office was set-up within Camp Aguinaldo to handle the load. Shown in photo were (from left) Katherine P. Llamzon, vice president for sales and marketing; Peter Rafael Limson, chair; Capt. Cesar L. Carranza, AFP-OTAG; Craig D. Sandness, Fargo sales director for EMEA and Asia Pacific; and Ike Hernandez, director.

FIRST ECLASS RAFFLE WINNER

First e-Bank Binondo branch depositor Eugene Dy (second from left) receives from First e-Bank president and CEO Carlos A. Pedrosa (middle) a world-class executive Swiss watch valued at over P150,000, the special prize of the second quarterly raffle draw of the bank's 1st eClass Raffle Promotion held recently. Also in photo are First e-Bank officers (from left) Tristan M. Cruz, vice president; Jose Alfredo Villanueva, executive vice president; and Fe Dizon, senior manager and Binondo branch head. In background is the brand new Mercedez Benz E-240 that will be awarded in the grand draw on Oct. 19.

NFA warehouse for Sultan Kudarat

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo recently turned over to the province of Sultan Kudarat a newly completed food security warehouse of the National Food Authority.

Assisted by NFA Administrator Anthony R. A. Abad, the president was welcomed by residents of Columbio, Sultan Kudarat, where the warehouse is located.

The Columbio warehouse has a storage capacity of 3,000 bags with 120 square meters of solar dryer pavement. It was constructed under the NFA's rehabilitation program for Central Mindanao to serve farmers displaced or affected by the recent skirmishes in the region.

NFA Administrator Abad said that the warehouse will provide a ready storage of grains stocks for the local farmers in the area. During calamities or emergencies, these rice stocks will be used by the NFA and the LGU to provide for possible lack of supply.

Representing the government of Sultan Kudarat were Gov. Pax S. Mangudadatu and Columbio Mayor Bai Zahara M. Paglas who both extended their gratitude to the NFA for the said program which is expected to help poor farmers of the town of Columbio.

Meanwhile, local farmers of Columbio welcomed the availability of a food security warehouse in their locality.

SULPICIO CELEBRATES WITH BOLINAO

Capt. Butch Renbonanza, port captain of Sulpicio Lines, celebrated with Bolinao Security and Investigation Service Inc.'s Golden Jubilee 2000, 50th Founding Anniversary. With Renbonanza were (second from left) Urbano P. Caasi III, vice president for business development and corporate planning of First Penta; Flordeliza Angel, Excelcard president; Donate Cave, operations manager of Excelcard and (back row) Edgardo Guanzon, operations assistant of Excelcard.

NEXTEL, SAS INSTITUTE CONTRACT

Nextel Communication recently signed a contract with 25-year-old world-leader software company SAS Institute to further boost the implementation of its Integrated Communication Service. The SAS System is an integrated suite of information delivery software providing companies with the power to know their organizations, their customers and their suppliers. Shown in photo are (seated, from left) Wilminda Martin, SAS business unit manager; Adeline Pacia, SAS country manager; Henry Aguda, Nextel chief operating officer; Noli Subingsubing, Nextel IT senior director; Emilio Festejo, newly elected Nextel president.

HEARING IMPAIRED STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM CAP COLLEGE

Photo shows academic achievement awardee for the year 2000, Evelyn Ahorro (BS Management) as she renders "Wind Beneath My Wings" with 11 graduating students of CAP College School for the Deaf doing the interpretation. The number was one of the highlights during CAP College's 10th commencement exercises where 231 students in liberal arts and business administration courses graduated. This year's ceremonies also marked the first graduate of the Dear Cap – Bureau of Corrections tie-up.

SCIENCE/HEALTH
CESAR D. MANGAWANG, Editor ■ STELLA O. GONZALES, Assistant Editor

Diabetes, a 'sugarcoated' disease

BY TESSA R. SALAZAR

Choreographer-magician Katuwiran "Kato" Amurao, 40, of Dancetown Manila has always been thirsty. A heavy eater, he remained lanky and frequently visited the urinal.

He noticed that ants would swarm over his urine in no time.

In recent years, the wounds on his feet wouldn't heal. Kato was also almost totally blind due to a cataract. He had undergone cataract extraction that enabled him to see more clearly. He also underwent dialysis for two months because one of his kidneys failed to function. Kato's sister later donated a kidney and Kato had a successful transplant.

Kato is a diabetic. He was diagnosed with it during a check up in 1986. He was admitted to a hospital and given insulin shots immediately. From that time on, Kato had been insulin-dependent. He injects insulin in the area of his stomach twice a day.

Kato also wears "health socks," which pretty much look like gloves for the toes of the feet. His toes have to be individually protected from abrasions.

Kato's maintenance includes a vial of insulin costing P720, and this is good for 10 days. Then he has to spend P2,000 a day for his kidneys.

Once he forgot to inject insulin and he became like a "melting candle."

Kato and his wife, Vilma, pray that the ravages of diabetes wouldn't reach his heart.

Benjamin Madrastro Jr., a technical assistant at the Office of the Executive Secretary in Malacañang, also wears health socks. Benjamin, a stocky and jolly guy in his late 40s, found out he was diabetic just four months ago. He was supposed to renew his 20-year insurance then. The insurance company didn't want to renew his policy after his medical checkup. He attributes the rejection to the findings of his high blood sugar.

Before he underwent treatment, part of Benjamin's ordeal aside from often being sleepy, was having itchy feet and muscle cramps. His blood didn't circulate properly to his lower extremities, thus his wounds wouldn't heal. Once, when he was unable to bear the itch, he and wife, Ruby, immersed his feet in very hot water with salt. His toes got swollen, instead.

Kato and Benjamin and their wives are members of the diabetes club of Clinica Manila's Dr. Milagros Gomez. Dr. Gomez, who calls herself a diabetologist, said her club has more than 300 members.

The participation of the spouses is important. The diabetic members of the club agree that their spouses play a "life-support system" role in their battle against the disease. The spouses keep track of the patients' medication and diet.

The club aims to inform and educate the patients on the modern management of diabetes and how to prevent further complications of the disease.

Benjamin's special diet prohibits him from eating red meat, sugarcoated candies, seafood, and soft drinks.

"We always knew diabetes was hereditary. But none in my family on both sides had a history of it. I do not like sugar, I do not like candies. The only thing I did was eat a lot of rice and drink a lot of soft drinks," recounted Benjamin.

Benjamin brings his blood sugar monitor every day to check his sugar levels. The monitor looks like a pocket-sized Palm Pilot and costs between P5,000 and P6,000. Benjamin uses a pen-like instrument to puncture his skin and extract blood. The blood sample is placed on a strip, which is placed in the monitor. After 15 seconds, the instrument indicates Benjamin's blood sugar count.

Benjamin performs this procedure two hours after lunch and dinner. It is a necessary, and expensive, procedure. Apart from the strips (a 25-piece pack costs around P600), Benjamin has to buy blood extractors.

Benjamin also wears around his neck a red, international medical "dog tag" indicating he is a diabetic.

"If anything happens to me, if I become unconscious, this would indicate my name, my blood type, age, birthday, my wife's name, our contact numbers and my doctor's name," he said.

Benjamin purchased the dog tag in the United States. He disclosed that a hospital in Manila has plans to use such medical tags for its senior citizen patients.

Benjamin and Kato are just part of the millions of Filipinos who have been diagnosed with diabetes. But that is just the tip of the iceberg.

The Department of Health said 63 percent of diabetics are unaware that they have it. The World Health Organization said the prevalence of diabetes in Southeast Asia doubles every five to 10 years based.

The prevalence of diabetes mellitus in the Philippines has been placed at 4.1 percent of the population. The 1982 DOH nationwide prevalence survey said the disease is more prevalent in urban areas (6.8 percent) than in rural areas (2.5 percent).

According to Gomez, diabetic patients are getting younger. She said most of her patients nowadays are in their late teens and 20s.

"This is a trend all over the world," she said. "The culprit is lifestyle and the western influence in the Philippines—sedentary lifestyle and fast food," she added.

Gomez showed a 1999 International Diabetes Center data that showed the Philippines side by side with Thailand, South Korea, China, India, Indonesia and Pakistan.

Only the Philippines was rated as having limited access to diabetes medication and care. The rest of the countries were either rated fair or had good access to diabetes medication.

The data also showed that the Philippines was the only country that had medical expenses primarily paid by the patient. The other countries had their governments subsidizing their medical expenses.

LIVING WITH DIABETES

Food and drinks

- Eat regular meals.
- Eat a variety of foods—more fruits, grains and bread.
- Eat less fat, avoid fried foods.
- Baked, broiled, grilled, boiled or steamed food are more healthy to eat.
- Eat less sugar. Drink sugar-free sodas and other liquids that have no added sugar in them.
- Eat less salt. Cut down on processed foods. Use herbs and spices instead of salt to flavor your food.
- Alcohol can cause health problems especially for people with diabetes. It may cause dangerous reactions with diabetes medicines.

Physical activity

- It's important to be active. It can help control blood glucose and weight and prevent heart and circulation problems.
- Start with a little. Walking, working in the yard and dancing are good ways to start.
- Do some physical activity every day. It's better to walk 10 or 20 minutes each day than one hour once a week.
- Choose an activity you enjoy. The more fun it is, the more likely you will do it each day.

Medication

Be sure you know how and when to take your diabetes medicine. If you take other medicines, ask your doctor how these can affect your diabetes control.

Source: Centers for Disease Control

FAST FACTS

- Most of the food we eat is turned into glucose, or sugar, for our bodies to use for energy. The pancreas, an organ that lies near the stomach, makes a hormone called insulin to help glucose get into the cells of our bodies. When you have diabetes mellitus, your body either doesn't make enough insulin or can't use its own insulin as well as it should. This causes sugar build-up in your blood.
- Up to 140 million people worldwide suffer from diabetes mellitus . This number may double by the year 2025. Much of this increase will occur in developing countries and will be due to population aging, unhealthy diets, obesity and a sedentary lifestyle.
- There are two principal forms of diabetes: Type 1, formerly known as insulin-dependent, and Type 2, formerly named non-insulin dependent.
- In Type 1 diabetes, the pancreas fails to produce the insulin which is essential for survival. This form develops most frequently in children and adolescents, but is being increasingly noted later in life.
- Type 2 diabetes is much more common and accounts for about 90-95 percent of all diabetes cases. This form of diabetes occurs almost entirely in adults and results from the body's inability to respond properly to the action of insulin produced by the pancreas.
- Diabetes mellitus is a hereditary disease.
- Symptoms: People who think they might have diabetes must visit a physician for diagnosis. They might have **SOME** or **NONE** of the following symptoms: frequent urination, excessive thirst, weight loss, extreme hunger, sudden vision changes, tingling or numbness in hands or feet, feeling very tired much of the time, very dry skin, slow-healing sores, prone to infections.

Nausea, vomiting, or stomach pains may accompany some of these symptoms in the abrupt onset of Type 1 diabetes.

- Treatment of Type 1 diabetes: Treatment requires a strict regimen that typically includes a carefully calculated diet, planned physical activity, home blood glucose testing several times a day and multiple daily insulin injections.
- Treatment of Type 2 diabetes: Treatment typically includes diet control, exercise, home blood glucose testing and in some cases, oral medication and/or insulin. About 40 percent of people with Type 2 diabetes require insulin injections.
- Complications: Recent research provides clear evidence of the potential for adequate treatment to delay or even prevent the long-term complications of diabetes, which include blindness, kidney failure, heart attacks and even gangrene and amputation of the limbs.

Source: World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control

Limit fruit juice for kids, pediatricians advise

CHICAGO—In its most extensive policy statement to date on fruit juice consumption by youngsters, the American Academy of Pediatrics has suggested limits on its daily use and warned that too much juice can cause nutrition and stomach problems.

The group's nutrition committee recommended that fruit juice consumption be limited to 113.6 to 170.5 ml (4 to 6 ounces) a day for children aged 1 to 6 and 227.3 to 340.9 ml (8 to 12 ounces) for ages 7 to 18.

It also said:

- Fruit juice should not be given to infants before 6 months of age.
- Infants older than 6 months should not get juice from bottles or cups that allow them to consume juice easily throughout the day.
- Infants should not get fruit juice at bedtime.

In many ways the policy statement formalizes what has become standard medical advice. William Cochran, a pediatrician who spoke for the academy, said that the revised statement is "far more extensive" than an earlier one issued by the group in 1999 which dealt primarily with the dangers of tooth decay from prolonged sipping of juice.

The academy said fruit juice does not contain any significant amount of protein, fat, minerals or vitamins other than vitamin C. It contains a large amount of carbohydrate (sugar), which if consumed in large quantities, can result in diarrhea, abdominal pain, bloating and flatulence. In addition, it said, most juices do not contain fiber, so they offer no real nutritional advantage compared to whole fruit.

Tooth decay

Juice consumption may cause tooth decay if children are allowed to hold a bottle, cup or box of juice in their mouth throughout the day or at bedtime, it added.

The statement, published in the academy's monthly journal, Pediatrics, defined fruit juice the way the US government does—100 percent fruit juice, with the label specifying whether it comes from concentrate. Anything less has to be labeled a "drink" or other such name.

"Fruit juice and fruit drinks are easily overconsumed by toddlers and young children because they taste good... Because juice is viewed as nutritious, limits on consumption are not usually set by parents. Like soda, it can contribute to energy imbalance," it added.

The report also said there has been conflicting research on whether excessive juice consumption leads to adult obesity, and it urged that more study be done on this question.

Parent education

In proper amounts, the statement said, fruit juices can be a valuable part of a child's intake. It also urged doctors to routinely discuss the use of fruit juice and fruit drinks and educate parents about differences between the two.

The Atlanta-based Processed Apples Institute issued a statement in response saying the report also indicates that fruit juice is not being overconsumed by a majority of infants and children, so there is no great cause for concern.

Reuters

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UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS HOSPITAL

Confab cites new findings in stroke treatment

BY THE CHARTER BUREAU

MILAN, Italy—For stroke patients, developing another stroke is always a lingering fear. Worldwide, stroke is the second leading cause of death and the leading cause of adult disability or handicap. Treatment options are still very limited and woefully inadequate for the care of stroke patients.

Such is the worrisome state of stroke worldwide as presented by concerned specialists during the recently concluded annual convention of the European Society of Hypertension.

Scientists and researchers continue to explore new treatment modalities to prevent recurrence of strokes. So far, aspirin and dypyridamole are the most frequently used antiplatelet drugs or blood thinners to prevent a repeat of stroke.

The newer drugs such as clopidogrel and ticlopidine have been shown to be equally effective in lowering the risk of recurrent stroke, except that their high cost has limited their use, especially in developing and underdeveloped countries without any reimbursement system for medications.

Cholesterol-lowering drugs, especially those belonging to the statin family, have been shown to be also beneficial in lowering the risk of recurrence of strokes and heart attacks even in individuals with only average cholesterol levels. These patients were previously not regarded as suitable candidates for cholesterol-lowering therapy.

Landmark 6-year study

One of the main highlights in the ESH meeting was the presentation of the results of the Progress, which is the acronym for the Perindopril Protection Against Recurrent Stroke Study.

This was a landmark 6-year study monitoring 6,000 stroke sufferers worldwide who were maintained on the blood-pressure lowering drug perindopril.

What was considered significant in this study was the majority of the patients enrolled had normal blood pressures and current practice guidelines do not recommend that these patients be placed on any type of blood pressure lowering drugs.

The Progress trial aimed to prove that even these patients may benefit with the use of perindopril which belongs to a family of drugs called angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors. ACE inhibitors have been reported to have other beneficial effects not related to its blood pressure lowering effect.

'Huge step forward'

The study chair, Prof. John Chalmers from the University of Sydney and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, reported that based on the Progress results, in stroke patients maintained on a perindopril-based regimen for four years, one patient in every 14 was spared a second stroke. The risk of further stroke and heart attacks was reduced by 25-50 percent. Other complications such as heart attack and dementia were also dramatically reduced.

Professor Chalmers described the study results as a "huge step forward." He explained that it was previously thought that blood pressure lowering drugs were also helpful for patients with high blood pressure, "but the study has shown that perindopril can have beneficial effects, not only for those with high blood pressure, but for the much larger number of stroke patients with normal blood pressure."

At present, blood pressure lowering drugs are given only to a minority of people who suffer a stroke or transient ischemic attack (warning stroke).

Science in the 21st century: NAST Awards 2001

(Last of three parts)

FOR THE PAST two weeks, we discussed the events highlighting the 25th anniversary celebration of the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST). We focused on the plenary speakers and gave a taste of what current advances are being done in the local science and technology arena. Now we continue with the recognition given by the NAST to outstanding work done by Filipino researchers today.

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

Dr. Ceferino Follosco (master engineer and former DOST secretary) and Dr. Reynaldo Vea (former dean of the UP College of Engineering and now president of the Mapua Institute of Technology) were conferred the rank of Academician, and thus became new members of the NAST.

This year, 10 new Outstanding Young Scientists were recognized. This award is given to scientists less than 40 years old who have made significant contributions to local science and technology. This year's awardees were my friend John Paul C. Vergara (computer science, Ateneo de Manila), Christina A. Binag (chemistry, UST), Dindo M. Campilan (communication and innovation studies, IRRI), Ma. Antonia E. Habana (epidemiology, PGH), Patricio P. Palmes (internal medicine, West Visayas State University-Hospital), and five scientists from UP Los Baños—Simeona V. Siar (plant breeding), Albert A. Gapud (physics), Edward F. Barroga (veterinary oncology), Lemnuel V. Aragones (marine biology) and Conrado H. Balatero (plant breeding).

The NAST-TWAS Science Prize in Physics was awarded to Albert A. Gapud, head of the physics division of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics at UPLB. Keep in mind though that physics is not singled out for special reasons—this prize revolves around the natural sciences. For instance, in 2002, 2003 and 2004, it will be for biology, chemistry and mathematics, respectively.

The Outstanding Book/Monograph Award is given to books or monographs published in the Philippines within the five years preceding the award. Seven awardees were recognized this year. The social sciences awardees were Sylvia H. Guerrero, editor of "Gender Sensitive and Feminist Methodologies: A Handbook for Health and Social Researchers" (University Center for Women's Studies, UP Diliman), and myself, for my 1997 book "Successful Family Businesses: Dynamics of Five Filipino Business Families" (Ateneo de Manila University Press).

The agriculture awardees were CECAP and PhilRice for "Highland Rice Production in the Philippine Cordillera"; Miyato Higaki, Renato G. Reyes, Tomoaki Iijima, Fumio Eguchi, and Cynthia Divina for "Mushroom Science and Technology in Central Luzon, Philippines for Food Security in the 21st Century"; and Emilio M. Cruz, Fe L. Porciuncula and Nenita R. Carbonel, editors of "Small Ruminant and Development Highlights." The last two books were published by the Central Luzon State University Press.

The health sciences awardees were Greg B. Pastorfide, editor of "Gestational Trophoblastic Disease with Philippine Experience" (Adarna House), and Virginia de Jesus, editor in chief of "Management Guidelines of Common Perinatal Conditions in the Philippine Setting" (Graphic Line Enterprises).

The Outstanding Scientific Paper Award is given to research papers published in local journals within the five years preceding the award. Six awardees were recognized this year. For mathematics, the awardees were Elvira P. De Lara-Tuprio (a colleague and friend), for "Ordinary Differential Equations and the Henstock Integral" and Sergio S. Canoy Jr. for "On Some Properties of a Bilinear Henstock Stieltjes Integral." Both papers were published in "Matimyas Matematika."

For biology, the awardees were: Milagrosa R. Martinez-Goss, for "The Biology of Nitzchia and Tryblionela (Class Bacillariophyceae) in the Philippines" (in Asia Life Sciences) and Severina B. Exconde, Asuncion K. Raymundo and Teresita M. Espino, for "Development of a Nucleic Acid-Based Monoclonal Antibody Technique for the Detection of the Bacterial Wilt Organism Banana in the Philippines" (in the Philippine Agricultural Scientist).

For agriculture, Rico A. Caldo, Leocadio S. Sebastian and Jose E. Hernandez were recognized for their papers "Multivariate Analysis of Phenotypic Diversity of Philippine Improved Rice Varieties" and "Morphology-Based Genetic Diversity Analysis of Ancestral Lines of Philippine Rice Cultures," both published in The Philippine Journal of Crop Science.

For the health sciences, Vicente Y. Belizario, Winifredo U. de Leon, Juan Antonio A. Solon, Agnes I. Marquez, John Mark T. Galang and Ma. Theresa G. Valderama were recognized for their paper "The Clinical Epidemiology of Pulmonary Paragonimiasis and Tuberculosis in Sorsogon, Philippines, Part 1: Misdiagnosis of Pulmonary Paragonimiasis and Tuberculosis in Sorsogon, Philippines and Part 2: An Integrated TB-Paragonimiasis Surveillance Program in Two Municipalities in Sorsogon Province, Philippines," published in the NRCP Research Journal.

The NAST Executive Council is composed of academicians all: Perla D. Santos Ocampo (president), Ruben L. Villareal (vice president), Jose O. Juliano (secretary), Ledivina V. Carino, Ernesto O. Domingo, Emil Q. Javier and Apolinario D. Nazarea. I congratulate the NAST for 25 years of commitment to science and technology in the Philippines, and I am honored that one of my works was recognized this year.

(Queena N. Lee-Chua, Ph.D. is an associate professor of mathematics and psychology at the Ateneo de Manila University. She writes the column "Mind Games" for www.inq7.net *and hosts the show "Fun with Math" on PTV-4. She can be reached at* blessbook@yahoo.com.*)*

Osteoarthritis study OKs Mobic

PRAGUE—In a unique managed care clinical trial, Mobic (meloxicath), designed to relieve the signs and symptoms of osteoarthritis, showed significantly greater "patient success" than other commonly used prescription nonsteriod antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).

The randomized study, which compared Mobic to "usual care," or whatever prescription-NSAID patients' individual physicians selected as their osteoarthritis treatment, was presented for the first time at the annual European Congress of Rheumatology in this city. The usual care treatment group included other prescription osteoarthritis medicines, such as piroxicam, diclofenac, naproxen, celebrex (celecoxib) and vioxx (rofecoxib).

"The difference in patient success between Mobic and the usual care NSAID group is clinically meaningful and important for both patients and physicians," said Gurkirpal Singh, MD, of Stanford University Medical School and an investigator in the trial. "Patients taking Mobic were considerably more satisfied with their treatment, which suggests to us that Mobic is an important treatment alternative for osteoarthritis—one that seems to work well and that patients can tolerate."

The trial, called "Improve" (Impact of Meloxicam on Prescription Regimens in Osteoarthritis vs Everyday Care), found that more than two-thirds (67 percent) of patients taking Mobic were classified as successes, compared to less than half (45 percent) of patients in the usual care group, with a range from 22 percent to 62 percent. Treatment success was defined as patients completing the trial without changing treatments, or those who no longer needed an NSAID for their osteoarthritis care.

Primary reason

As with many osteoarthritis patients, the primary reason for study patients to change or discontinue their NSAID treatment was lack of efficacy or the presence of adverse events, such as intolerable gastrointestinal (stomach) side effects. After six months of therapy, fewer osteoarthritis patients taking Mobic discontinued or switched their treatment because of lack of efficacy or side effects, including gastrointestinal (GI) side effects, compared to patients treated with other commonly used NSAIDs. Moreover, when patients rated their satisfaction with their osteoarthritis care after one year and six months of therapy, those taking Mobic were significantly more satisfied than those taking the usual care NSAIDs.

"We know that some NSAIDs have been associated with unsatisfactory efficacy and that some can cause unbearable stomach problems. In my practice, patients who have taken Mobic have generally found it to be effective in reducing the pain and symptoms of osteoarthritis and have tolerated it well," said David Silver, MD, clinical chief of rheumatology, Cedars Sinai Medical Center. "Of course, no drug is perfect for everyone, but treatments like Mobic and the other new NSAIDs offer our osteoarthritis patients new options to fight this painful and disabling disease."

Patient satisfaction

The Improve trial followed more than 1,300 osteoarthritis patients for six months and measured patient satisfaction and treatment success, as defined above. Half of the enrolled patients were prescribed Mobic, and the other half was given whatever prescription NSAID (other than Mobic) their individual doctors selected, referred to as "everyday care."

"The Improve trial is unique because we went directly to the patients and asked them how satisfied they were with their medical care for their osteoarthritis," said Dr. Singh. "In the practice of medicine, the most important thing is what works for the patient, and this is the first time we implicitly measured that in an arthritis study."

Arthritis affects approximately 43 million patients alone in the United States, 20 million of whom suffer from osteoarthritis, a chronic disease characterized by joint pain, swelling and stiffness, as well as a reduction in mobility.

Mobic is a nonsteroid antiinflammatory drug (NSAID) developed by Boehringer Ingelheim and indicated for the symptomatic treatment of painful osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis (indications may vary from country to country). Mobic has been used by more than 45 million patients in 100 countries worldwide. Mobic, classified pharmacologically as a selective COX-2 inhibitor, offers a balance between reliable efficacy and overall safety, including a favorable gastrointestinal (GI) tolerability profile.

New findings

Also presented at the Annual European Congress of Rheumatology were new findings from a pooled analysis of 35 double-blind randomized clinical trials with 27,039 patients, of whom 10,158 were taking Mobic at the recommended starting dose of 7.5mg daily, demonstrate that Mobic has a low incidence of serious upper gastrointestinal (GI) complications. Also important to note, in these 35 trials, rates of cardiovascular adverse events were low and similar for Mobic and two other commonly prescribed NSAIDs. These safety findings are especially noteworthy in light of the medical community's concern about the GI and cardiovascular side effects of NSAIDs.

Mobic is contraindicated in patients who have experienced asthma, itching or allergic type reactions after taking aspirin or other NSAIDs. Severe, rarely fatal, anaphylactic-like reactions to NSAIDs have been reported in such patients. As with all NSAIDs, serious GI toxicity such as inflammation, bleeding, ulceration and perforation of the stomach, small intestine, or large intestine can occur at any time, with or without symptoms. As with other NSAIDs, Mobic is not indicated for prevention of thromboembolic events and is not a substitute for aspirin or other drugs indicated for cardiovascular prophylaxis.

Coping with cough, colds and flu

ANOTHER season of rains, storms and floods is looming, signaling months under intermittent weather, and more pressing times.

The season has long been associated with the spread of diseases, which leave a scourge that is not to be taken lightly. Respiratory diseases rank among the top 10 causes of deaths in the country.

Apart from colds and fever, cough befalls those not too cautions about falling prey to the spate of human viruses. When these things happen, one's function in society is hampered badly, due to unnecessary discomforts and symptoms, like headache, watery or congested eyes and nose, sore throat, chill, muscle pains, and difficulty in breathing.

As such, the situation calls for the proper preparations to serve as defense against these threatening viral agents. Here are a number of suggestions to consider before and during the rainy months:

• Always bring proper rain gear when leaving the house. This includes umbrellas, raincoats, jackets (with hoods) and boots (for wading through floods).

• Always be in dry clothes. After being drenched in rain shower or in sweat after an activity, change into dry clothes immediately.

• Avoid going out during a storm, to avoid hard rain and cold winds.

If possible, wait for the weather to settle down before you leave.

• Before leaving the house, check the weather for the day so you can bring appropriate rain gear.

• After being drenched in the rain, get out of your wet clothes, take a warm bath and drink hot nourishment (e.g. Tizane Herbal Health Tea) to keep your body warm.

• Upon sensing symptoms of cold, cough or flu, take the necessary medication to prevent the onset of disease. If your condition worsens consult with your doctor.

• Maintain a healthy diet to ward off diseases. Eat more fruits and vegetables to have natural defense against cough, colds and flu.

• Avoid staying in crowded places to minimize chances of getting infected by people suffering from diseases.

Without the proper awareness and preparations, it would be easy to get sick, or get infected. The best weapon is an efficient medication that would not only stop the onset of viruses, but also prevent their recurrence altogether.

The most affordable and effective treatment is also the most natural in the market today. Ascof (Lagundi) is the first and only natural cough and asthma remedy that is extensively researched and clinically proven by the National Integrated Research Program on Medicinal Plants. It is indicated for consumers with mild to moderated cough, as well as asthma.

The case of the limp rag doll

BY RAFAEL R. CASTILLO, MD

ANGIE was a typical teenager. She was a college freshman in an exclusive university. She loved going to the mall on weekends, spent most of her allowance on Cristina Aguillera CDs, and sent countless text messages on her cell phone. In the last few months, she complained of on-and-off mild weakness, which she and her mom attributed initially to lack of exercise.

MEDICAL FILES

She enrolled in a nearby gym and worked out regularly three times a week. That didn't seem to help since she would still wake up the following morning with a vague feeling of just not being well. It was ironic; the more strenuous her exercise was the previous day, the more bothersome the weakness was the morning after.

Angie shrugged off everything as just one of the body changes she had to adjust to as a teenager. She was doing okay until one weekend, after a heavy snack of banana split and a jumbo hamburger, she suddenly became limp as a rag doll while still window-shopping at the mall. She remained conscious and aware about everything that was going on, but her hands and legs were so weak she could hardly move a finger. She couldn't help but panic, not knowing what was happening to her. She was rushed by her friends to the nearest hospital.

The emergency room physician immediately evaluated Angie, and was likewise puzzled about the sudden onset of marked weakness. In young female patients, a hysterical reaction could sometimes cause this, but the young doctor was not convinced this was a plain and simple hysterical reaction. First, there was no emotionally stressful incident that could have triggered it. In fact, Angie was having the time of her life enjoying her weekend gimmick with her friends. Second, Angie did not have the type of personality that would predispose to hysterical problems. Third, there was really marked flaccidity of the extremities with absent reflexes on physical examination, something a hysterical person could not fake.

There must be an organic problem in Angie, the doctor thought. Unfortunately, he could not pinpoint exactly what it was. He had some blood tests rushed and after an hour, he came back to Angie with a less puzzled look.

Low serum potassium

"I think we found the problem," he proudly declared. "Your serum potassium, which is an important electrolyte in the body and which we can measure in the blood, is markedly low. We call this hypokalemia. When you have severe hypokalemia like what you have, you can really have profound weakness or even paralysis of the body."

"But why did it reach such critically low levels in my body; and why so suddenly?" Angie asked.

"Obviously, you don't have the usual common causes of hypokalemia like diarrhea or intake of drugs called diuretics which induce potassium loss in the urine. In your case, considering the sudden onset, we're considering a familial hypokalemic paralysis or FHP. The high sugar-carbohydrate snack which you took just before you developed the paralysis, most likely triggered the attack and supports the diagnosis of FHP."

"Am I going to be paralyzed all my life?" Angie sounded really worried.

"Don't worry, Angie. It's only a transient or temporary paralysis. You'll regain back your strength as soon as we've corrected the hypokalemia." The doctor's words were like a soothing balm to Angie's frayed nerves.

Hypokalemic attacks

The doctor explained that familial periodic paralysis is a disorder, which may run in the family. It is characterized by recurrences of flaccid weakness with the individual suddenly getting a sapped feeling or even paralysis, accompanied by abnormally low (hypokalemia) or high (hyperkalemia) levels of potassium in the blood. Hypokalemic attacks, like what Angie had, typically begin in late childhood or adolescence, frequently precipitated by a big intake of carbohydrates or sweets and vigorous exercise. It tends to be severe and may last a day or longer.

The hyperkalemic attacks are characterized by a younger age of onset. The attacks tend to occur more frequently but usually milder and shorter in duration. The weakness may spontaneously resolve after a few minutes or hours; hence, a lot of these patients are misdiagnosed to be just malingering or feigning illness.

Many features are common to both varieties of periodic paralysis, including familial recurrence, susceptibility after strenuous exercise but termination of imminent attacks by mild exercise, onset of weakness in the lower extremities with progression to the arms but not the respiratory muscles, and intensification of the attacks by cold temperature.

Hypokalemic attacks are best treated with intake of potassium chloride, and hyperkalemic episodes, with a combination of glucose and insulin. Affected individuals are advised about all the triggering factors so these may be avoided to prevent attacks of periodic paralysis.

Angie was out of the hospital in 48 hours. As the doctor promised, she was back in shape like nothing had happened. Now, she still goes to the gym for her exercises. But her gym instructor makes sure she doesn't do any strenuous exercise. She still goes to the mall every weekend with her friends or family But definitely, no more heavy carbohydrate snacks like banana splits and jumbo burgers.

(Medical Files is based on the case histories of actual patients. Some information have been changed to hide the patient's identity. Aside from the medical information, it stresses the socio-psychological impact of disease on the patient. Dr. Castillo is a past president of the Philippine Heart Association/Philippine College of Cardiology. For comments or inquiries, e-mail rafcastillo@manila.com.ph.)

SCISCOPE

For lactose intolerant kids

HUMAN infants are generally born with high levels of the enzyme lactase although there is a genetically programmed decline in lactase levels after weaning in most racial and ethnic groups, most especially in Asians and Africans. At birth, we produce enough lactase. Between the ages of 2 and 7, however, lactase production begins to decline. Lactase deficiency increases from 23 percent in 1- to 2-year-old children, 68 percent in those aged 3 to 4 years, to almost 86 percent in 9 to 10 years old. By adulthood, many people have about one tenth as much as they had at infancy. This gradual decline means that when we take in more lactose than we can handle, it lingers in the digestive tract, producing abdominal cramping, bloating, gas and diarrhea 30 minutes to two hours after eating. Fortunately, lactose intolerance is relatively easy to manage. No treatment exists to improve the body's ability to produce lactase, but symptoms can be controlled through diet. Young children with lactase deficiency should not eat any food containing lactose. Mead Johnson's lactose-free milk formulas are the innovative solutions to the nutrition needs of lactose intolerant children. These formulas contain glucose polymers for easier digestion, and all the vitamins of regular formulas plus DHA, an important brain-building ingredient. Mead Johnson's lactose-free line is the only complete line of formulas that help support brain development the tummy-friendly way.

Lecture on diabetes set Aug. 4

AN AMERICAN expert in diabetes who stunned the Filipino public with his undisputed revelations about diabetes will conduct another long awaited lecture dubbed as "The Missing Link in Diabetes and Body Flat Cure" on Aug. 4. Dr. Abe C. Gibeily will give the lecture, which is appealing to those suffering from diabetes and obesity. Medical or health professionals and entrepreneurs are welcome to attend (to explore strategic partnerships and distribution opportunities). Certificate of lecture attendance will be issued when requested in advance. Due to the overwhelming response to Dr. Gibeily's last few lectures in Manila, those who want to attend should complete a reservation form to determine whether one is qualified for a free seat. And those qualified will be issued a unique seat number to be admitted to the lecture halls. Free seats can be obtained by calling up Health From Earth Corp. hotline at (02) 660-2290 or 6698017 or through text at 0916-3050010 or by e-mail to healthph@eudoramail.com.

Confab on health professions education

THE NATIONAL Teacher Training Center for the Health Professions of UP Manila will hold the 2nd national conference on health professions education on July 24-25 at the Garden Plaza Hotel beside Paco Park in Manila. The event will highlight the Corazon P. Gonzales Memorial Lecture as well as the formal activation and election of officers of the Philippine Association of Health Professions Educators. Physicians, dentists, nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, pharmacists, medical technologists, dietitians/nutritionists, other allied health professionals and those who are teaching future health professionals in all settings will benefit from this conference. For inquiries, please call up or fax the NTTC-HP secretariat at (632) 526-4259.

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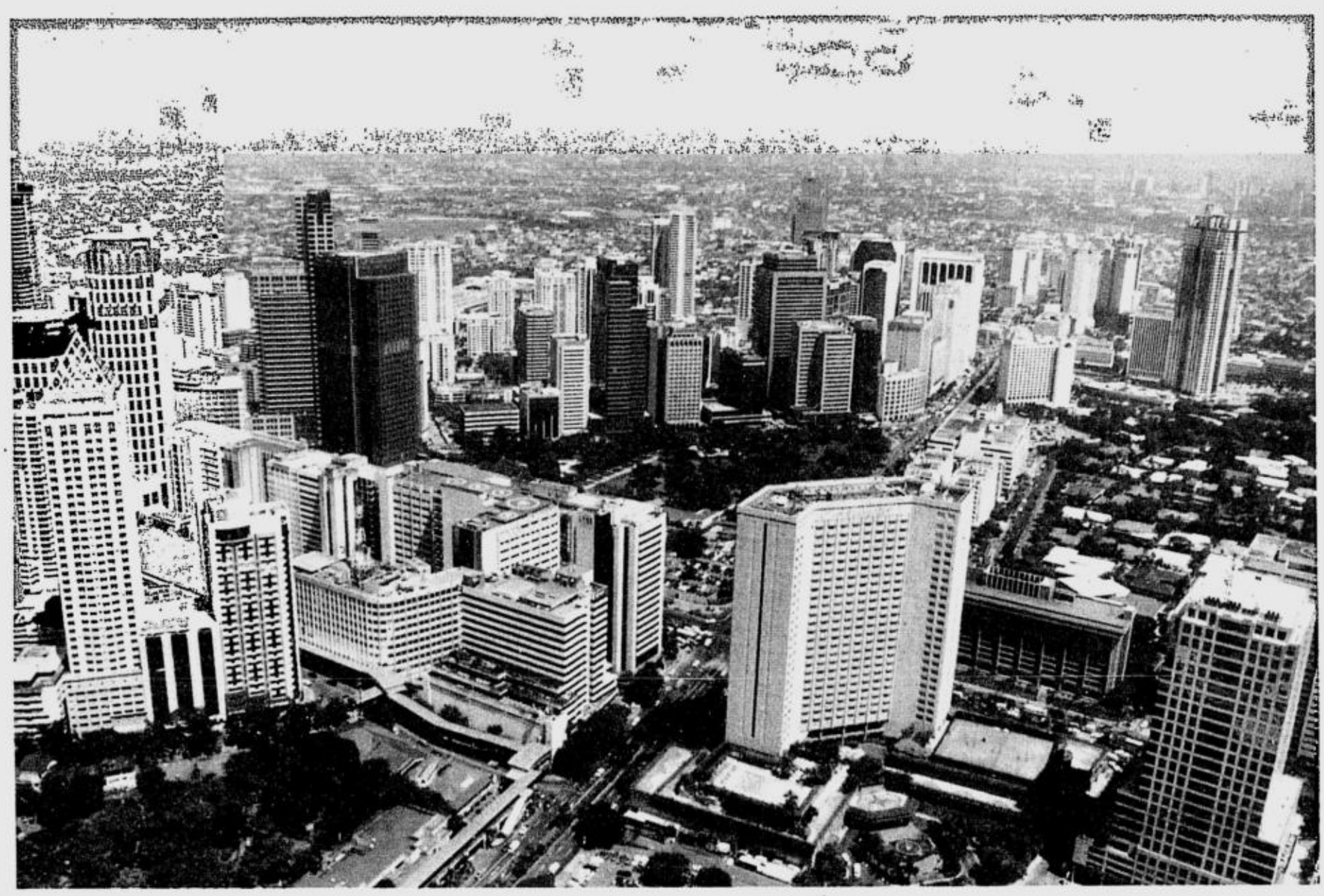

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For Announcement Purposes Only

Treat of the Week

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2001

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

G3

SaturdaySPECIAL

NESTOR U. TORRE, Editor ■ EDMUND L. SICAM, Associate Editor

Mango Fruit Shake

1 cup mango (cubed)
1/3 cup NESTLÉ CREAM.
1/2 cup crushed ice

Combine mango, NESTLÉ CREAM, crushed ice in a blender. Process for 30 seconds to 1 minute until smooth. Pour into glass, adding more crushed ice if desired.

Watch out for next week's fruity treat!

Simians rule anew in 'Planet of the Apes' update

BY BENJAMM SVETKEY

MARK Walhberg is an astronaut and Estella Warren is a rebellious human in the remake of the sci-fi classic.

ONE gorilla is reading Variety and sipping a Frappuccino. Another is sharing a chef's salad with a chimpanzee. A third is gabbing into a cell phone.

Brunch

An upside-down planet where apes evolve from men? Actually, it looks more like brunch at the Ivy—only with less fake fur and better table manners.

About 100 of these pseudo-simians—each the result of up to six hours in a makeup chair—are on a break before filming a battle scene for Twentieth Century Fox's long-awaited $100 million update of "Planet of the Apes." The location is at the northern tip of the Mojave Desert, the Trona Pinnacles, an otherwise barren, prehistoric-seeming landscape spiked with the same weirdly jutting rock formations that Charlton Heston traversed during his sojourn in the Forbidden Zone more than 30 years ago.

This "Planet," though, turns out to be worlds apart from the original. For starters, the remake—or "revisiting," as the producers insist on calling it—is directed by Tim Burton, the Goth cinema god behind such cheery horrors as "Beetlejuice," "Edward Scissorhands," "The Nightmare Before Christmas," and "Mars Attacks!"

Astronaut

In this version, Mark Wahlberg is the astronaut who takes a wrong turn (although Heston does a cameo—as a chimpanzee). Tim Roth plays the ambitious ape general who loathes him. Helena Bonham Carter is the sympathetic chimp who loves him (perhaps *really* loves him, but more on that later). And Michael Clarke Duncan ("The Green Mile") is a silvery gorilla soldier.

Another difference: This time the folks in the hirsute suits actually look (and jump and growl) like real apes. "I almost had a heart attack the first day of shooting," Wahlberg recalls, lazily twirling the Flintstone-like club he'll be brandishing in combat later that day.

"We were standing on a hill, and I was looking down at my feet, and next to me I saw these big furry toes hanging out of these sandals. I looked up and there was this huge gorilla smiling at me. I had to run to the monitor and sit with Tim until I calmed down."

"It was pretty weird at first," Burton concurs. "But you get used to it. In fact, it got to the point when it was more disturbing to see the actors *without* makeup. I kind of preferred dealing with them as apes."

Meetings

Fox had been monkeying around with the idea of an "Apes" remake for nearly a decade. At one point, James Cameron took meetings with the studio about the project. "I would have gone in a very different direction" is all he'll say today about his concept.

What sorts of bottomless conspiracies Oliver Stone might have uncovered—back when he too was contemplating going "Apes"—will probably never be known either. Nor will the ideas of Chris Columbus, the Hughes brothers, or Arnold Schwarzenegger—all of whom talked to the studio about updating the 1968 sci-fi classic.

But it wasn't until recently—around the time Tom Rothman took over as studio co-chief last year—that Fox got down to serious monkey business.

The screenplay by Williams Broyles Jr. ("Cast Away") was polished by Lawrence Konner and Mark D. Rosenthal, who share writing credit; Richard D. Zanuck (who nursed the original "Apes" into theaters when he was head of Fox production in the '60s) was tapped to produce; and Burton was approached to direct.

"Picking Tim was the easiest," Rothman says. "He was just what we needed to reinvent the material—an iconoclastic, auteuristic visionary."

Only Burton wasn't so sure. "The first rule of remakes is never remake a great movie," he says. "But that's part of what appealed to me. I guess I'm kind of perverse that way."

Exactly how the visionary plans on putting his signature on the film is hard to say: Plot points are being kept top secret, even from visitors to the set. Still, a few details can be divulged.

No Statue of Liberty

This time, there's no Statue of Liberty; the planet Wahlberg plans on doesn't turn out to be a future Earth, although producers promise a different surprise ending Also, on Burton's "Planet," the resident humans speak. In fact here's one chatting away right now.

"It's sort of a slave/master world," offers Estella Warren, the 22-year-old synchronized-swimming champion-turned Sports Illustrated swimsuit model who costars as a rebellious human named Daena.

"Some of the humans are angry and some have sort of reverted to becoming slaves. I'm very aggressive, but at the same time I've been taught never to look apes in the eye because they're so powerful and can hurt us. So there's this combination of anger and fear . . ."

There is also, of course, lots of hair. Originally, Fox chose Stan Winston ("Edward Scissorhands") to design the ape makeup, but Burton ended up replacing him with Rick Baker ("Ed Wood"). "I have a relationship with both of them, so that decision was hard," he says. Finding actors willing to endure the painstaking devolution process, however, turned out to be a snap. "I had no qualms about the makeup at all," says Paul Giamatti ("Man on the Moon"), who plays an orangutan slave trader named Limbo.

"My agents asked me, 'You want to play a human, right? So people can see your face?' And I said, 'No way! What's the point of being in 'Planet of the Apes' as a *human*?'"

Worried

Helena Bonham Carter was a bit worried about how her combustible chimpanzee makeup might affect her smoking habit, but the producers solved that problem by giving her an elegant 1920s-style cigarette holder.

"Oh, I'm still highly flammable," says the "Merchant Ivory" mainstay, puffing away in her trailer while covered in latex, "but I look fabulous." In fact, the only actor who seemed seriously concerned about his wardrobe was Wahlberg.

"The last thing I wanted was to wear a loincloth," says the onetime underwear model. "It would have been hard for me to walk out of my trailer with that thing on." (Mercifully for him, he gets to wear long pants.)

But clothes alone don't make the monkey: All the actors playing simians were required to attend a six-week course in ape behavior. (Incidentally, Bonham Carter flunked: Her ape breathing needed work)

Even so, the five-month shoot was not entirely without incident. During filming at the Pinnacles—where Roth's ape army clashes with Wahlberg's human legion—more than a few clubs and spears went awry, with on-set medics periodically rushing to attend to the injured. Burton himself busted a rib demonstrating how he wanted some extras to roll down a hill.

Of course, the real danger comes when the film opens July 27. As Rothman remembers from Fox's event movie last summer, sci-fi enthusiasts can get ugly when you mess with their sacred texts.

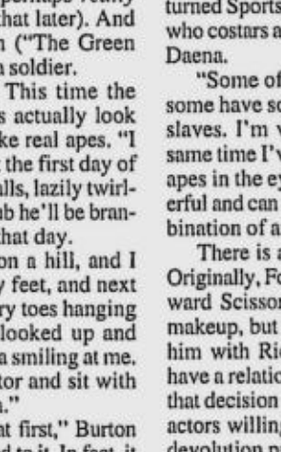
Franchise

But if Burton creates an entirely new "Planet" while simultaneously satisfying the purists, he'll have taken a cherished classic and turned it into a franchise—something he hasn't accomplished since "Batman."

On the other hand, if the movie turns out to be less fun than a barrel of you-know-whats, he'll have some explaining to do—especially about that rumored love scene between Wahlberg's astronaut and Bonham Carter's chimp.

"I know there's been gossip about it in the press," says Burton. "And, yes, there is some sort of romance in the film. But it's not like you see any actual animal penetration. There's no bestiality. Nothing like that."

Let's just hope they don't cut any of the steamy pillow talk: "Put your stinking paws on me, you damn dirty ape!"



MICHAEL Clarke Duncan as a silvery gorilla soldier.

HELENA Bonham-Carter plays a lovestruck chimp.

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THE ELEMENTS OF WINNING:

THE MAN, HIS MIND AND HIS MACHINE

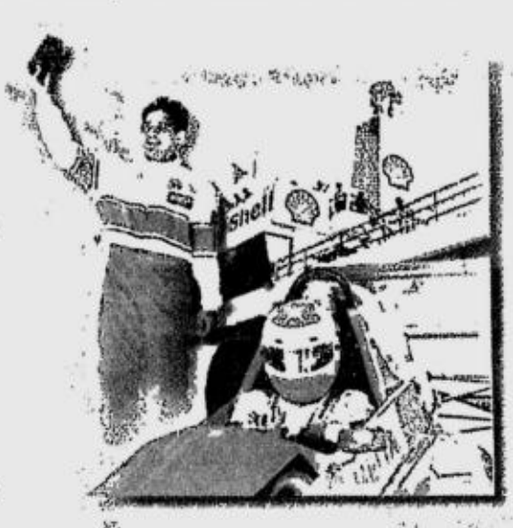
The electronic timer clocked 1 hour 25 minutes 33.770 seconds as two blurs whizzed through the finish line almost simultaneously. Michael Schumacher, his F2001 gleaming in the sun, needed just a few seconds (33.646 seconds to be exact) to rule this year's British Grand Prix. But cool and calm as usual, Schumi, as called by his fans, just sped by comforted by the thought that he has increased his season points lead to a commanding 37 points over his nearest rival. And that with but six races to go for the year. His fourth series title virtually in the bag, Schumi started to think about the German Grand Prix, and what would be his strategies to tie the all-time Formula One record of 51 career wins. One mind, one car, and Shell fuel and lubricants. A winning combination, a definite edge in a championship's mind.

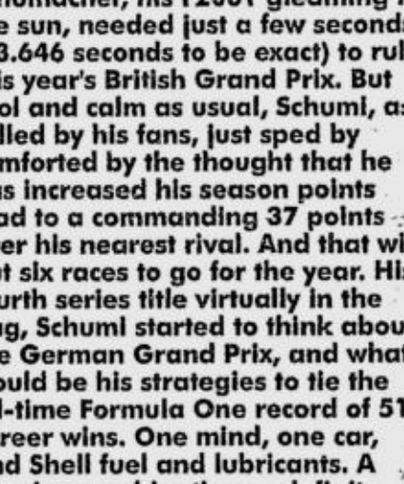
Michael Schumacher, Formula One's current top driver and triple World Champion, is one victory away from tying Alain Prost's career record of 51 victories. Having been on the racing scene for 21 years, six years of which were spent with Ferrari, Schumacher has scored 50 wins, 39 poles, 43 fastest laps and the World Championships, to become the most successful Ferrari driver ever, beating others such as Ascari, Lauda, Scheckter, Villeneuve, Prost, Berger and Mansell.

As Schumacher puts it, winning cannot be attributed to him alone. There is the contribution of the whole team, as well as fans and supporters. And of course there is the car. Schumacher is driving the F2001 powered by Shell fuel and lubricants. It is Ferrari's 47th racing car designed for the Formula One World Championship.

In the local race scene, F3 race driver Pepon Marave has been making big waves for the Shell team. At the Batangas Racing Circuit track last week, Marave crossed the finished line a close second. Marave finished magnificently in what could be considered his "maiden journey" on a car that was delivered to him only 3 days before the race. The Italian-chassis car with a Toyota engine arrived from Japan and in three days that he was given to set-up his car, he feels he was not able to maximize the car's potentials. Marave, third in the overall standing, feels he could've done better if he was given more time to prepare and set-up his car. He is looking forward to the coming race on August 19 when he will be given another chance to prove that he, together with his car and Shell, are the perfect winning combination.

Asked to describe his feelings just before a race, he states that it is a combination of excitement, fear, nervousness and elation. Amidst the adrenaline rush, he feels his strength, determination and alertness reach its peak level. After 16 years of racing, he can never quite get over this blend, and often conflicting, emotions coursing through his body. Which is why, until now he savors that moment and looks forward to it right before every race.





Schumacher Driven 1951 Ferrari for Shell's 50th Anniversary

Last July 15, Michael Schumacher drove the first ever-winning Ferrari around Silverstone to mark the 50th Anniversary of Shell and Ferrari's first win together. Touring the Northamptonshire circuit twice, the Ferrari World Champion delighted the crowds with the sight and sounds of one of the most famous racing cars in the world.

"It's nothing like a car today, the only similarities I can find are the grooved tyres and the fact that it runs on Shell fuel and lubricants," mused Michael as he talked people through his run. "When Ferrari won in 1951," said Mr. Wadsworth, member of the 1951 team, "we knew that it was a momentous win as the Alfa Romeos had been beaten. Shell and Ferrari had worked hard to devise a winning formula, but to be back here fifty years later watching Ferrari and Shell still challenging all comers is phenomenal."

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Mango Fruit Shake

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1/3 cup NESTLÉ CREAM.
1/2 cup crushed ice

Combine mango, NESTLÉ CREAM, crushed ice in a blender. Process for 30 seconds to 1 minute until smooth. Pour into glass, adding more crushed ice if desired.

Watch out for next week's fruity treat!

Nestle cream

Simians rule anew in 'Planet of the Apes' update

By Benjamm Svetkey

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This "Planet," though, turns out to be worlds apart from the original. For starters, the remake—or "revisiting," as the producers insist on calling it—is directed by Tim Burton, the Goth cinema god behind such cheery horrors as "Beetlejuice," "Edward Scissorhands," "The Nightmare Before Christmas," and "Mars Attacks!"

Astronaut

In this version, Mark Wahlberg is the astronaut who takes a wrong turn (although Heston does a cameo—as a chimpanzee). Tim Roth plays the ambitious ape general who loathes him. Helena Bonham Carter is the sympathetic chimp who loves him (perhaps *really* loves him, but more on that later). And Michael Clarke Duncan ("The Green Mile") is a silvery gorilla soldier.

Another difference: This time the folks in the hirsute suits actually look (and jump and growl) like real apes. "I almost had a heart attack the first day of shooting," Wahlberg recalls, lazily twirling the Flintstone-like club he'll be brandishing in combat later that day.

"We were standing on a hill, and I was looking down at my feet, and next to me I saw these big furry toes hanging out of these sandals. I looked up and there was this huge gorilla smiling at me. I had to run to the monitor and sit with Tim until I calmed down."

"It was pretty weird at first," Burton concurs. "But you get used to it. In fact, it got to the point when it was more disturbing to see the actors *without* makeup. I kind of preferred dealing with them as apes."

Meetings

Fox had been monkeying around with the idea of an "Apes" remake for nearly a decade. At one point, James Cameron took meetings with the studio about the project. "I would have gone in a very different direction" is all he'll say today about his concept.

What sorts of bottomless conspiracies Oliver Stone might have uncovered—back when he too was contemplating going "Apes"—will probably never be known either. Nor will the ideas of Chris Columbus, the Hughes brothers, or Arnold Schwarzenegger—all of whom talked to the studio about updating the 1968 sci-fi classic.

But it wasn't until recently—around the time Tom Rothman took over as studio co-chief last year—that Fox got down to serious monkey business.

The screenplay by Williams Broyles Jr. ("Cast Away") was polished by Lawrence Konner and Mark D. Rosenthal, who share writing credit; Richard D. Zanuck (who nursed the original "Apes" into theaters when he was head of Fox production in the '60s) was tapped to produce; and Burton was approached to direct.

"Picking Tim was the easiest," Rothman says. "He was just what we needed to reinvent the material—an iconoclastic, auteuristic visionary."

Only Burton wasn't so sure. "The first rule of remakes is never remake a great movie," he says. "But that's part of what appealed to me. I guess I'm kind of perverse that way."

Exactly how the visionary plans on putting his signature on the film is hard to say: Plot points are being kept top secret, even from visitors to the set. Still, a few details can be divulged.

No Statue of Liberty

This time, there's no Statue of Liberty; the planet Wahlberg plans on doesn't turn out to be a future Earth, although producers promise a different surprise ending Also, on Burton's "Planet," the resident humans speak. In fact here's one chatting away right now.

"It's sort of a slave/master world," offers Estella Warren, the 22-year-old synchronized-swimming champion-turned Sports Illustrated swimsuit model who costars as a rebellious human named Daena.

"Some of the humans are angry and some have sort of reverted to becoming slaves. I'm very aggressive, but at the same time I've been taught never to look apes in the eye because they're so powerful and can hurt us. So there's this combination of anger and fear . . ."

There is also, of course, lots of hair. Originally, Fox chose Stan Winston ("Edward Scissorhands") to design the ape makeup, but Burton ended up replacing him with Rick Baker ("Ed Wood"). "I have a relationship with both of them, so that decision was hard," he says. Finding actors willing to endure the painstaking devolution process, however, turned out to be a snap. "I had no qualms about the makeup at all," says Paul Giamatti ("Man on the Moon"), who plays an orangutan slave trader named Limbo.

"My agents asked me, 'You want to play a human, right? So people can see your face?' And I said, 'No way! What's the point of being in 'Planet of the Apes' as a *human*?'"

Worried

Helena Bonham Carter was a bit worried about how her combustible chimpanzee makeup might affect her smoking habit, but the producers solved that problem by giving her an elegant 1920s-style cigarette holder.

MARK Walhberg is an astronaut and Estella Warren is a rebellious human in the remake of the sci-fi classic.

"Oh, I'm still highly flammable," says the "Merchant Ivory" mainstay, puffing away in her trailer while covered in latex, "but I look fabulous." In fact, the only actor who seemed seriously concerned about his wardrobe was Wahlberg.

"The last thing I wanted was to wear a loincloth," says the onetime underwear model. "It would have been hard for me to walk out of my trailer with that thing on." (Mercifully for him, he gets to wear long pants.)

But clothes alone don't make the monkey: All the actors playing simians were required to attend a six-week course in ape behavior. (Incidentally, Bonham Carter flunked: Her ape breathing needed work)

Even so, the five-month shoot was not entirely without incident. During filming at the Pinnacles—where Roth's ape army clashes with Wahlberg's human legion—more than a few clubs and spears went awry, with on-set medics periodically rushing to attend to the injured. Burton himself busted a rib demonstrating how he wanted some extras to roll down a hill.

Of course, the real danger comes when the film opens July 27. As Rothman remembers from Fox's event movie last summer, sci-fi enthusiasts can get ugly when you mess with their sacred texts.

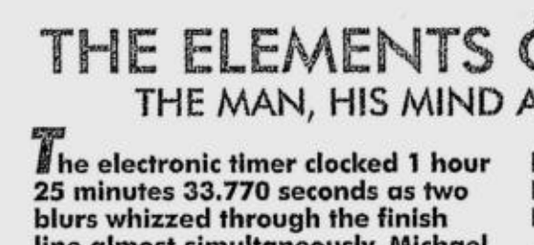
Franchise

But if Burton creates an entirely new "Planet" while simultaneously satisfying the purists, he'll have taken a cherished classic and turned it into a franchise—something he hasn't accomplished since "Batman."

On the other hand, if the movie turns out to be less fun than a barrel of you-know-whats, he'll have some explaining to do—especially about that rumored love scene between Wahlberg's astronaut and Bonham Carter's chimp.

"I know there's been gossip about it in the press," says Burton. "And, yes, there is some sort of romance in the film. But it's not like you see any actual animal penetration. There's no bestiality. Nothing like that."

Let's just hope they don't cut any of the steamy pillow talk: "Put your stinking paws on me, you damn dirty ape!"



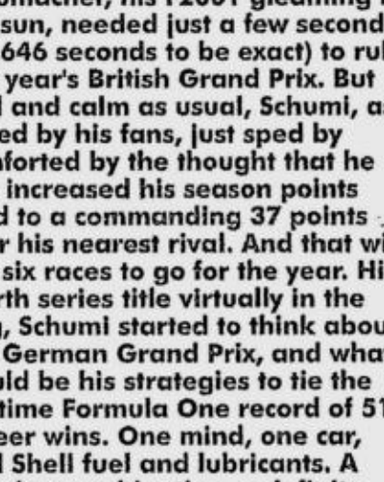
The Circuit

THE ELEMENTS OF WINNING:
THE MAN, HIS MIND AND HIS MACHINE

The electronic timer clocked 1 hour 25 minutes 33.770 seconds as two blurs whizzed through the finish line almost simultaneously. Michael Schumacher, his F2001 gleaming in the sun, needed just a few seconds (33.646 seconds to be exact) to rule this year's British Grand Prix. But cool and calm as usual, Schumi, as called by his fans, just sped by comforted by the thought that he has increased his season points lead to a commanding 37 points over his nearest rival. And that with but six races to go for the year. His fourth series title virtually in the bag, Schumi started to think about the German Grand Prix, and what would be his strategies to tie the all-time Formula One record of 51 career wins. One mind, one car, and Shell fuel and lubricants. A winning combination, a definite edge in a championship's mind.

Michael Schumacher, Formula One's current top driver and triple World Champion, is one victory away from tying Alain Prost's career record of 51 victories. Having been on the racing scene for 21 years, six years of which were spent with Ferrari, Schumacher has scored 50 wins, 39 poles, 43 fastest laps and the World Championships, to become the most successful Ferrari driver ever, beating others such as Ascari, Lauda, Scheckter, Villeneuve, Prost, Berger and Mansell.

As Schumacher puts it, winning cannot be attributed to him alone. There is the contribution of the whole team, as well as fans and supporters. And of course there is the car. Schumacher is driving the F2001 powered by Shell fuel and lubricants. It is Ferrari's 47th racing car designed for the Formula One World Championship.



In the local race scene, F3 race driver Pepon Marave has been making big waves for the Shell team. At the Batangas Racing Circuit track last week, Marave crossed the finished line a close second. Marave finished magnificently in what could be considered his "maiden journey" on a car that was delivered to him only 3 days before the race. The Italian-chassis car with a Toyota engine arrived from Japan and in three days that he was given to set-up his car, he feels he was not able to maximize the car's potentials. Marave, third in the overall standing, feels he could've done better if he was given more time to prepare and set-up his car. He is looking forward to the coming race on August 19 when he will be given another chance to prove that he, together with his car and Shell, are the perfect winning combination.

Asked to describe his feelings just before a race, he states that it is a combination of excitement, fear, nervousness and elation. Amidst the adrenaline rush, he feels his strength, determination and alertness reach its peak level. After 16 years of racing, he can never quite get over this blend, and often conflicting, emotions coursing through his body. Which is why, until now he savors that moment and looks forward to it right before every race.

Schumacher Drives 1951 Ferrari for Shell's 50th Anniversary

Last July 15, Michael Schumacher drove the first ever-winning Ferrari around Silverstone to mark the 50th Anniversary of Shell and Ferrari's first win together. Touring the Northamptonshire circuit twice, the Ferrari World Champion delighted the crowds with the sight and sounds of one of the most famous racing cars in the world.

"It's nothing like a car today, the only similarities I can find are the grooved tyres and the fact that it runs on Shell fuel and lubricants," mused Michael as he talked people through his run. "When Ferrari won in 1951," said Mr. Wadsworth, member of the 1951 team, "we knew that it was a momentous win as the Alfa Romeos had been beaten. Shell and Ferrari had worked hard to devise a winning formula, but to be back here fifty years later watching Ferrari and Shell still challenging all comers is phenomenal."

MICHAEL Clarke Duncan as a silvery gorilla soldier.

HELENA Bonham-Carter plays a lovestruck chimp.

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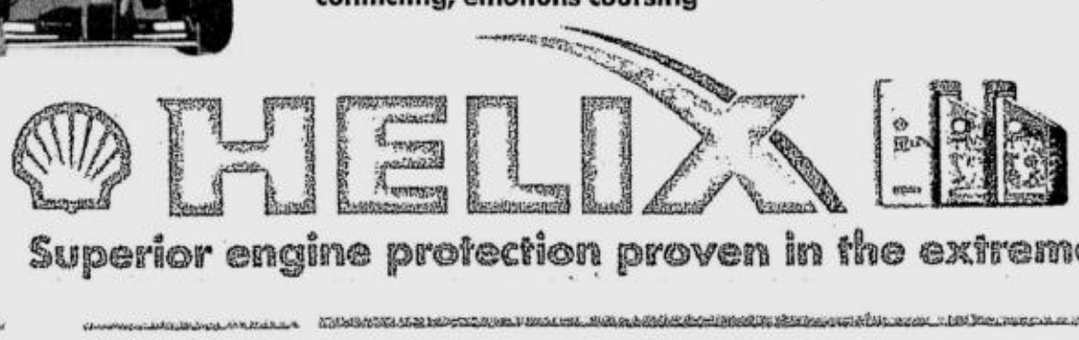

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Baz Luhrmann reinvents the film musical

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

BAZ Luhrmann is a director after our own heart. We love film musicals, and for years now we've been rueing their relative absence on our movie screens. Now, with "Moulin Rouge," Luhrmann has brought back the glory days of the musical film, which held sway in Hollywood form the '30s to the '60s.

"Moulin Rouge" is only Luhrmann's third feature film, but the Australian director has already become an acclaimed filmmaker in a relatively short time. "Blame" it on the vivid impact that "Romeo + Juliet" had on the world's youth when it was shown in 1998.

Why did he decide to follow up with "Moulin Rouge?" "I've always adored musicals," the director replies. "—everything from the 'The Band Wagon' to 'Cabaret.' I was introduced to them at an early age. When I was a boy, we owned a gas station, and the man who delivered the gasoline owned a moviehouse. After he died, my dad took over and became the projectionist.

"I remember the great thrill when the red curtains would part, and we'd see films like 'Paint Your Wagon' or 'The Red Shoes,' or a Busby Berkeley musical. I was enraptured!

"In the theater, I've done a lot of musical work. In the movies, however, the musical needs to be reinvented, and that's why I wanted to make 'Moulin Rouge,' to make today's audience thrill to the reinvention of the contemporary film musical!"

Luhrmann's musical fantasy is set in the famous Parisian nightclub in 1899. It stars Nicole Kidman as the nightclub's star courtesan, Satine.

Kidman surprised her co-workers and even herself by doing her own singing and dancing in the film. As the story unfolds, Satine is bent on seducing a moneyed duke to finance a musical to launch her stellar career, but she gets sidetracked when she falls in love with Christian, a penniless young writer (played by Ewan McGregor).

Luhrmann keeps the plotting simple and reserves most of his creative energy for the movie's characteristically lush and pulsating visualization. He calls his filmmaking style "red curtain cinematics." He is prodigal in his use of visual references to old films, evident in period hairstyles and costume silhouettes reminiscent of the memorable leading ladies of "Blue Angel," "Cabaret" and "Gilda."

But the filmmaker doesn't get trapped in the past. Like his two previous films ("Strictly Ballroom" and "Romeo + Juliet") have shown, he has a keen sense of contemporary tempos and visual icons, and loves energizing the past with today's heightened images and rhythms.

This is opulently evident even in Luhrmann's stage productions, which can be said to have been "rehearsals" for his first film musical. While working on "Strictly Ballroom," he produced his first opera, "Lake Lost," followed by the large-scale musical event, "Dance Hall," at the Sydney Town Hall.

Then came his highly acclaimed staging of Puccini's "La Boheme" and other classical and modern operas. Next, his interpretation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," set in colonial India, won raves at the Edinburgh Festival. Now, with "Moulin Rouge," it's the movie screen's turn to be energized by Luhrmann's love for music and musicals.

Our hope is that the movie's success will inspire other producers and directors to come up with their own new singing and dancing productions, so that the movie musical can regain its popularity and again become the major impulse and force in filmmaking that it once was.

Film sale

From time to time, film buffs ask us where they can find good movies on laser disc or VHS. Well, just this week, we learned from a friend that a collector is selling a number of outstanding movies on disc and tape.

If you're looking for good films, especially hard-to-find, rare or classic titles at very low prices, call 0917-5376370. Call now, so you can get first crack at the best movies up for sale.

Unified Domination with Sauza Zaz

During the next four Saturdays, hit the hottest nightspots with MTV Philippines' Unified Domination And Sauza Zaz. Today, July 21, Po Na Na Bar along Libis, QC features the best in house music with DJs Manolet and Jed Dario.

NICOLE Kidman as Satine in "Moulin Rouge."

On July 27, head for Where Else in Makati with 7 Shots of Wisdom as they play hip R&B.

On Aug. 4 visit Mistral, the new nightspot on Yakal St. in Makati with top DJs Anthony Kierulf and David Jacob.

And on Aug. 11, the place to be is the Republic of Malate, where you can groove to the smokey tunes of Blue Rats, followed by the sounds of DJ Steve Mills.

MTV Philippines is on Channel 41 for free TV or non-cable subscribers, Channel 32 on SkyCable, and Channel 41 on Home Cable.

TV workshops

On-Line Video Workshops present a two-day workshop, "What Works for Kids," facilitated by Data Tolentino, supervising producer of "5 & Up," on July 21 and 28 at the Roofdeck of Future Point Plaza III 2 Panay ave., QC.

Rounding out the lecture series is a course in Directing A TV Ad by well-known director Sockie Fernandez. Call Mavic at 412-7895.

'Keep on Dancing'

At 10 p.m. today on Channel 2, "Keep on Dancing" features three dancing queens in Regine Tolentino, Mylene Dizon and Michelle Bayle, Franco Laurel teams up with Janet McBride, Troy Montero dances with Assunta de Rossi, Marvin Agustin is featured with the Manoeuvers, and the young cast of "G-Mik" does a contemporary dance number.

'XYZ'

On the ABS-CBN News Channel 21, "XYZ" (7 p.m. today) has segments on how to get a US visa, Michelle van Eimeren as a "marriage migrant," how to care for teeth, and HIV AIDS. The magazine show is directed by Ida Vargas.

CAST of "Arriba, Arriba" decked out as characters in a "Grease"-type musical extravaganza.

'Arriba, Arriba'

It's back to the past on "Arriba, Arriba" at 7 p.m. today on Channel 2 as its cast dons period outfits for a musical extravanganza with a touch of "Grease."

It all starts when Winona (Jolina Magdangal) tries out for a campus musical production and bumps into a weird student (Nikki Valdez). When her luck turns bad, Winona believes that Nikki's character has put a curse on her.

'MITCHbehavin' in Tagbilaran

Mitch Valdes is presenting her very popular "MITCHbehavin'" comedy-musical act tonight in Tagbilaran, Bohol. Billed as "MITCHbehavin' 'n' 7th Heaven," this is a must-see show for all Boholanons at the Grand Ballroom of the MetroCenter Hotel and Convention Center. Not to be missed!

Anna Fegi has a rosy future ahead of her

BY RITO P. ASILO

THE REAL reason why Anna Fegi (pronounced *Fe-dji)* decided to try her luck in Manila was to fulfill her dream of recording an album.

Final break

Barely two years after auditioning for the final batch of Smokey Mountain, which included James Coronel and Chedi Vergara, she has done more than just record her solo debut album, "Every Step of the Way" for BMG Pilipinas. She has performed in musical plays (Singapore Repertory's "Rent" and Japan's "Hair," among them) and starred in solo concerts where she earned critical acclaim and was noticed for her stirring renditions of her multi-genre repertoire, and for her jaw-dropping vocal range.

If you have not heard of her having been a part of Ryan Cayabyab's famous singing quartet (which also jumpstarted the careers of Geneva Cruz, Tony Lambino and Jeffrey Hidalgo), it is probably because she joined the group in its Japan gig, six months before it disbanded.

Before these high-profile stints, Anna was the lead vocalist of a Cebu City-based band, and acted in University of San Jose Recoletos' productions of "The Sound of Music" (where she played "Maria," and thoroughly enjoyed the experience) and excerpts from "Ms. Saigon" (she played Kim but felt she didn't fit the image of the tragic heroine). So her foray into Manila's highly competitive musical theatre scene came as no surprise for her folks back home.

It was interesting to note that while she played Maria, the guy who played Capt. Von Trapp was South Border's Luke Mijares! Similarly, she edged out Luke for Smokey Mountain's final slot.

Challenge

But taking over the role of Maureen in "Rent" was a challenge for her. She explains, "I had doubts about taking on the role for two reasons: first, it required me to show my butt then kiss another woman onstage (the character is lesbian). Second, I was worried people would compare my performance to Monique Wilson's and get dissed for it." Fortunately, Anna got over her doubts, and got rave reviews from Singapore's picky press.

"I wish I could do theater more regularly but rehearsals take so much time," she says. She reveals that she is not reprising her role in the reported rerun of "Rent" in October.

For now, though, Anna is excited over the recent release of her debut album, which took two years to finish. Why did it take that long?

"We had to make sure we picked the right materials. We compiled 20 songs and chose 12 cuts to record," she explains.

Notable tracks

Among the notable tracks are the carrier single, "You and I," by Louie Ocampo; a remake of Irene Cara's "Anyone Can See"; the beautifully-sung "Di Ako Iiyak" (which was suggested by radio DJs); "Even More," translated from a popular Japanese song; Shanice Wilson's "Love Came to Me," Edith Gallardo's "Babalik Ka Ba?," her duet with German pop star Christian Wunderlich, "Two Hearts Can Beat as One," which Christian himself composed; and Ty Lacy and Dennis Matkosky's "I Need You".

Interestingly, "I Need You," is the carrier single and title track of American country pop sensation LeAnn Rimes' latest album. Anna's manager, Bibsy Carballo, reveals that the song had been offered to her before it landed on LeAnn's lap.

"The first time I saw the music video, I had already recorded the song six months earlier," Anna tells us. We suggest you check out the song to hear for yourself how different the two versions are, and how well Anna holds her own alongside LeAnn's version.

Other than her numerous concert gigs, Anna now belongs to ABS-CBN's "ASAP," which she co-hosts twice a month. She has also been a regular fixture in song festivals, here and abroad, like the annual Metropop (her latest was this year's "Destiny" by Rock Custodio), the Himig-Handog sa Bayaning Pilipino Songwriting Competition (where she won the People's Choice Award for her powerful interpretation of Dodjie Simon's "Larawan"), and the Asia Music Festival.

Effortless belting

Anna may be known for her effortless belting but she swears she prefers light singing. She grew up liking the songs that her father used to sing, like Dulce's "Paano," or those stylish standards that Regine Velasquez has been remaking of late, like "I Just Don't Want to Be Lonely," "Bluer Than Blue," "Maybe This Time," and the like.

FEGI. Rave reviews.

She doesn't like the worn-out, hip-hop warbling of the pop world's current toasts, like Destiny's Child or Blaque, but she can sing their songs with ease, and with just as much vocal bravado. "Sometimes, you have to give your audience what they want to hear, so I give in. I belt for them. That is so characteristic of Filipinos, they want their singers to belt all the time," she muses.

In the course of our interview, Anna would sometimes break into song, just simple crooning tunes that are not Mariah Carey-type of vocalese—and, let me tell you, what a treat it was for us! This girl has a rosy future ahead of her.

Appreciation

While Filipinos are very hard to please, probably because the Philippines just has too many talented singers and actors, Singapore nationals are very showy with their appreciation.

"They're very generous with praise," Anna compares. The Japanese, on the other hand, are very silent, and language has always been a problem because not a lot of them speak English."

We learned that Anna was one of only three Filipinos (the other two were "Ms. Saigon" veteran Bobby Martino and opera star Agnes Barredo) chosen from a horde of hopefuls to hurdle the auditions for the rock musical, "Hair," some years ago.

While she had fond memories of the three-month, 20-city tour, Anna says it was hard for them because the musical was in Japanese. She recalls, "We were taught what the lines meant, but we didn't know exactly what we were saying." But it was fun while it lasted.

Anna hopes to have as much success in recording as she has had with musical theater. And then, who knows what she can do next? For talents as gifted as Anna Fegi, the future always has something exciting to offer!

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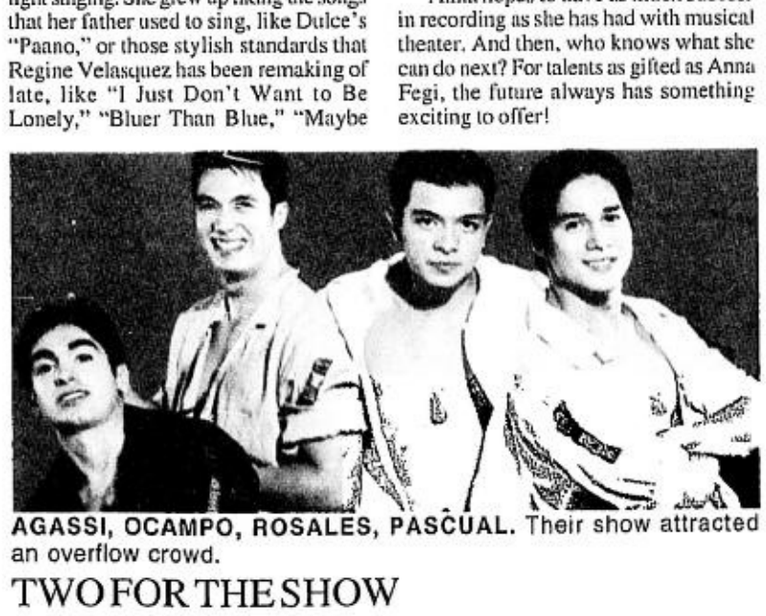


AGASSI, OCAMPO, ROSALES, PASCUAL. Their show attracted an overflow crowd.

TWO FOR THE SHOW

The Hunks in concert

BY MARY ANN A. BAUTISTA & RICKY T. GALLARDO

THE HUNKS, composed of Diether Ocampo, Piolo Pascual, Jericho Rosales, Carlos Agassi and Bernard Palanca, showed their muscles and musical talents in a concert at Music Museum last week. The place was packed, but the show failed to live up to expectations.

As the hunks sang their upbeat opening number, a large video wall at the side of the stage flashed their baby pictures. This gimmick was greeted by shrieks and screams, but the song failed to excite us.

Since their version of "Wild Boys" had fewer movements, we were able to scrutinize how good they looked when they were flushed and sweaty.

With the exception of Piolo Pascual and Bernard Palanca, the "hunks" don't have the vocal talent to sustain a concert. Piolo showed us that he has the makings of a balladeer when he sang "Kahit Isang Saglit" without resorting to a falsetto to reach the high notes. The audience liked what it heard and asked for more, but Piolo refused and said, "*Hindi ko* concert *ito*."

Bernard had incredible stage presence as he gave us a glimpse of his sensitive side, never mind if he dedicated that number to actress Rica Peralejo.

THE HUNKS/ p.C3

Vision for the future

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

OFTEN in the past, I would visit my friend, Rorie Arnaez who maintains a beautiful modern *bahay kubo* in Bustos, Bulacan, in the middle of a huge tract of land planted to mango trees, a well manicured lawn and a showcase of various rare garden plants. Behind her *kubo* is a rock formation with flowing water, with 200 pet fish in a pond.

Hometown

Rorie helped campaigned for Mayor Tito Reyes because she wanted her hometown to progress. She spoke at all of his campaign sorties and finally, despite the fact that they did not have enough money, the people in Bustos helped him win by voting wisely and volunteering as poll watchers on election day.

Bustos is one of the 24 municipalities of Bulacan province, 19 kilometers away from the provincial capital, Malolos. It has a population of 47,164.

Bustos is an agricultural municipality. The central business district is the public market located at Barangay Poblacion and there are three existing financial institutions engage in banking activities.

Education is undertaken by public and private schools. The Bulacan State University offers technical courses.

It is also a tourist attraction because of the existence of houses built during the Spanish period. Visitors come to town to enjoy day and night swimming and relaxation at various resorts.

Saying

The new mayor is a young, self-made son of Bustos who adheres to the saying, "The voice of the people is the voice of God." Carlito D. Reyes attended school in Bulacan while helping his father work their one-hectare farm. After graduation in 1970, he enlisted with the Philippine Navy while taking his BA major in Economics, which he completed in 1984.

He joined the Philippine Marines and retired in 1995.

In 1993, Tito married his high school sweetheart, Elvira Baldonado, and they reside in Talampas, Bustos, Bulacan. He ran for councilor in 1995. He began to learn that, in politics, almost everything is dirty. He acted as fiscalizer in the Sangguniang Bayan. In 1998, he was elected vice mayor of Bustos.

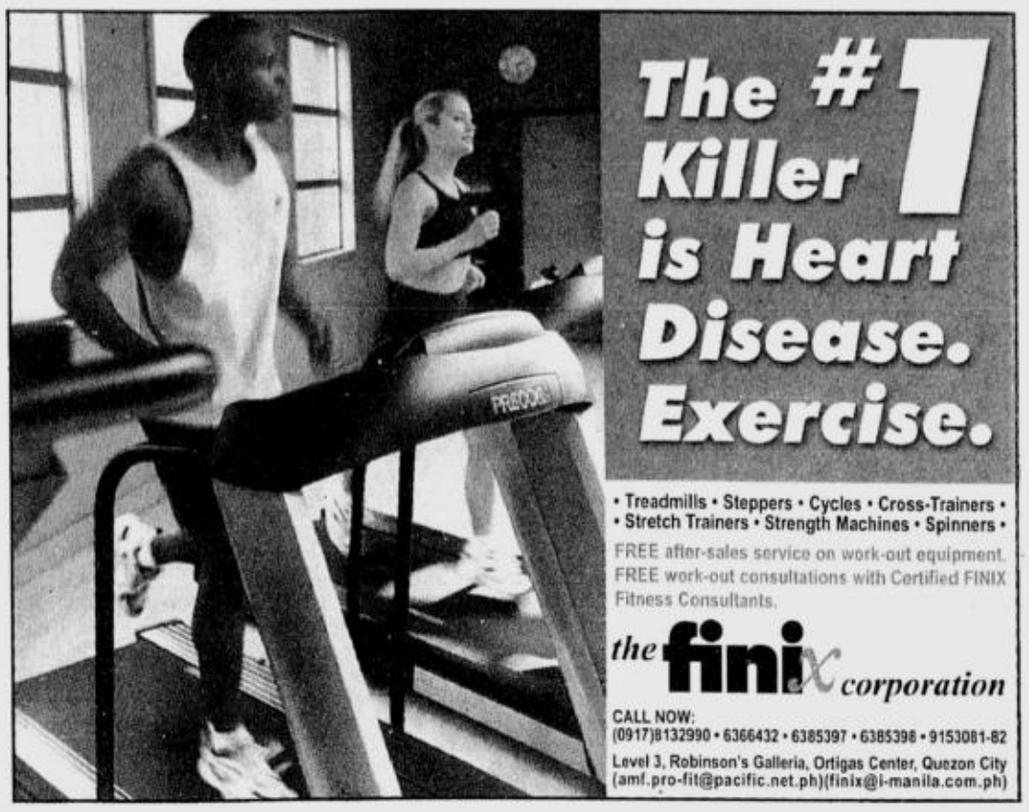
REYES. Self-made man.

Tito then decided to put an end to the political dynasty of his opponent. He believed that being a poor man is not a hindrance as people have learned how to vote wisely in Bustos. He won by a margin of 2,000 votes.

Municipal hospital

Despite the existence of modern technology, Bustos has been left behind by its adjacent municipality, the very progressive Baliuag. Mayor Reyes wants Bustos to become a first class municipality. He also plans to establish a municipal hospital, and envisions the development of local tourism through the improvement of Bustos Dam, one of the main attractions of the municipality.

He will also invite investors to establish factories in Bustos, as well as developers of housing projects.



The Hunks

(From page C2)

Carlos and Jericho shared the spotlight when they did "Angel." The combination of rapping and singing conveniently hid their limitations.

The Manila Sound, Menudo and Hagibis medleys kept girls and gays salivating. The hunks looked masculine and sleek as they sang "Katawan," "Like A Cannon Ball," "It's An Explosion," "Annie Batungbakal," "Rock Baby Rock," "Awitin Mo, Isasayaw Ko."

Jon Santos impersonated Rosanna Roces and almost stole the spotlight from the hunks. Not to be outdone, Ai-Ai delas Alas went overboard as she performed her Madonna medley. Yes, Ai-Ai got laughter and shrieks as she did her comic routine, but her antics were offensive.

Judging from the embarrassed expression on the hunks' faces, we sensed that some parts of her comic routine could have been unrehearsed.

Lance Raymundo: Unplugged

Out of his more popular brother's shadow, Lance Raymundo has come to terms with the fact that he will always be compared to his *kuya*. "I don't mind it at all, because Rannie's success is also my success. *Ang sa akin lang*, just give me space—and a stage—to sing, because that's what I love doing most," he says.

No, he doesn't feel bad that he hasn't come up with a hit yet. "It's all a matter of timing, a little luck perhaps and a lot of hard work, too."

In fact, his second attempt to hit the bull's eye in the charts looks very positive. He recently released his next single from his self-titled CD, titled "Hope for the Lonely Night," and it's getting very good feedback from radio jocks.

Model Search holds finals

Private Property Shirts in cooperation with Athenaeum Talent Management and Creative Services presents the search for Private 8 Models Grand Finals by way of a fashion show on July 28, 3:30 p.m. at SM North Edsa's Entertainment Plaza. Be there as 20 of the most attractive young men and women vie for eight slots. The show will also feature Leandro Muñoz and Monina Bagatsing as image models.

Aiza Seguera takes a much-deserved bow

No question that Aiza Seguera's second coming is phenomenal. The figures pertaining to how much her album has sold so far (more than 125,000 copies) is a clear indication that the former child wonder has something truly laudable to offer.

We bought a copy of her CD a few weeks ago and couldn't stop raving about it.

"The song is honest and her voice is cool and refreshing," was how an instant fan described Aiza's carrier track, composed by Moy Ortiz of The CompanY and penned by Edith Gallardo. We certainly agree, Aiza is one of the few local artists who sing with heart. As Joey de Leon puts it, "*Maraming magagaling na* singer. *Pero iilan lang ang may puso kapag kumanta.*"

Now, we believe that there is really no formula for success except for the basics—a good, simple melody, direct-to-the-point lyrics and a radio-friendly singing voice.

Regine joins Jaya in Big Dome concert

BY EDMUND L. SICAM

JAYA, the country's Queen of Soul, aims to take the Araneta Coliseum by storm next Saturday, July 28, 2001 at 8 p.m. The concert, entitled "Jaya: Unleashed" is her first major concert where she is the main performer, unlike in the past when she always played a supporting role. In the supporting roles this time are the lead singers of popular local bands, Wency Cornejo, Ely Buendia of Eraserheads, Rico Blanco of Rivermaya and Jay Durias of South Border. Also appearing in the concert are the boyband, Jeremiah and songbird Regine Velasquez.

Nervous

Jaya admits that she is nervous about being the show's main star. She is especially concerned about ticket sales. Why did she choose to do a concert now, when the economic situation is so bad, and a concert is a risky venture? "I wanted to postpone it because I felt like I was getting sick, and the economy now is not that great, but since they had already started the whole production they'd end up paying cancellation or postponement fees. You cancel, you pay; you go for it, you pay—so, what's the difference? You do it *na*."

Jaya's own words best describe this concert: "It's a Filipino show!" According to Jaya, the concert is full of production numbers. "Every song is an opening number!" Jaya shared that they had to figure out how to do the quick changes and entrances and exits because in some segments, she is given only a few seconds to do so. Someone commented that if Madonna was able to do it, she should have no problem doing the same. Jaya commented, "She had a year to practice! I have, like, a week?"

Since Filipino audiences seem to be looking for vocal acrobatics in their favorite singers, does she feel pressure to belt her songs? She replies, "I do certain rifts, or belt, *kung eksakto*, and then I don't necessarily have to belt the last line. *Kaya nga mas maganda kung sa* album, *isa lang ang* style because you can shock them or make them feel another type of emotion or surprise them *sa* live!"

Lounge acts

Jaya shares that she has been pondering the idea of doing a series of shows, at a hotel lounge perhaps. "I will be promoting it like this: 'you can't go there unless you are a music lover, you can't go there unless you love Sarah Vaughn, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald,' *ganoon*. Satisfaction for me is when I sing live performances in smaller venues singing non-hits, *pero kilala*, it could be from Sergio Mendes to Al Jarreau."

She observes that the Filipino audience is very hard to please. She narrates the time she and her husband were watching Janno Gibbs in concert. "His first number, my husband was 'Wow! *Ang ganda*!' But there were all these people walking around, talking, laughing. They don't care. But the ones who care, you will see them somewhere out there in front. I want an audience that really wants to hear."

The concert also features Jaya's good friend, Regine Velasquez. She shares that they never expected that they would become friends. She describes their friendship this way: "You know how you have some friends that you don't see for years and then you see them again and it's like you never left each other?" She says that they get along because their personalities are compatible. "We're both fire signs. I'm more confrontational. *Si* Regine *naman* is non-confrontational. That's why our friendship works."

JAYA. Main performer for a change.

Complicated

She also has a very good and close friendship with Bing Loyzaga, a friendship she describes as "complicated". "Not complicated *na masama. Tsaka kami*, we don't talk about about price, budget." She reveals that next year, she and Janno Gibbs will have a concert together. "The king and queen of shortness!" she jokes.

Regine Velasquez was also at the presscon to show her support for Jaya's concert. The Songbird has appeared with Jaya in many concerts. She has even directed Jaya in the latter's provincial performances on the Crossovoer tour.

As usual, Regine was bubbly and talkative, never leaving any question unanswered. She talked about being happy with herself. "In my house, *naka*-duster *pa rin ako tsaka tsinelas na goma*! I happen to like myself like that, so I don't see the point of me changing, although I know for a fact that I have already changed—*pero* basically *pareho pa rin*."

She also is very appreciative of all the blessings she has received. "Everytime *na may ma-e*-encounter ako na problem, I always think of my life before, so *ang* feeling ko, *napakawala akong karapatan na mag*-complain."

Shocking

She shares with reporters how many things still shock her, especially jokes about S-E-X! "*Ngayon nga medyo* accepted *ko na* when my friends joke about sex. I used to get so embarrassed, or *minsan* I don't get embarrassed because I didn't get it! *Pero ngayon sanay na ako*!" Reporters then dared her to say some really graphic Tagalog words. Regine just burst into laughter and blushed! She kept screaming, "*Ay, naman*! *Grabe*!" She just couldn't get herself to say "those" words!

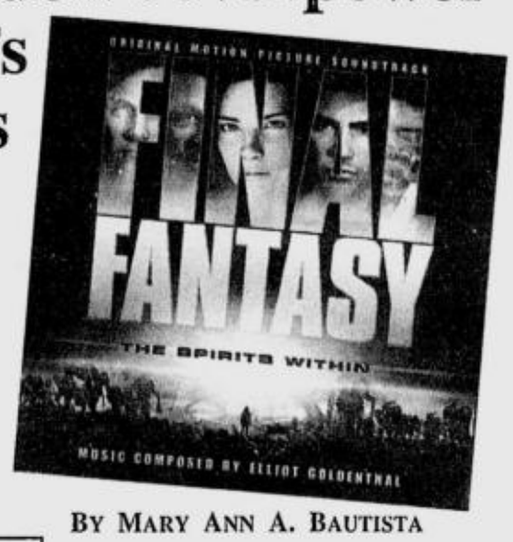
However, when it comes to cuss words, she says she has learned to use them. According to Regine, she didn't know how to curse in the past. "*Sa bahay dati, bawal magmura. Nagagalit nanay ko, ayaw niya! Ngayon, magsabi ng 'gago'*, accepted *na niya iyon. Pero mga PI, ayaw pa rin niya*. I actually try not to anymore, *kasi nagiging* habit ko na...." Regine shares.

Regine reveals that after making three hit movies, she is hesitant to do another one. "*Takot na nga ako e*!" She kids, "Actually, last movie *ko na iyon. Ayoko na po*!" We suggested that it was time for her to have her very own movie, with no big name leading men to back her up. Regine immediately quipped, "*Siguro iyon iyung* launching movie *kong bagong* image....bold star *na ako. Papakita ako ng....siko*!" In a more serious vein, she explained why she felt it was not yet time to do a solo movie. "*Hindi pa ako* ready," she said.

And for our last juicy tidbit! Regine revealed that in the past, she never associated the word "sexy" with males. But now, she says she has learned to appreciate sexiness in males. "*Gusto ko, maganda ang* chest and arms." And she reveals to us who she finds sexy. "*Noong nag*-movie kami ni Robin, I found him sexy. *Hindi kasi siya iyung gwapong-gwapo, pero iba iyung* personality *niya*."

ALBUM REVIEWS

Songs don't overpower movie's visuals



"FINAL FANTASY." Unsetting feeling.

BY MARY ANN A. BAUTISTA

Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within
Original Soundtrack
Sony Music Phils.

YOU should see the movie to enjoy the soundtrack. The movie had eye-popping visuals and songs like "The Dream Within," "Spirit Dreams Inside," and "No Falter" enhance the visual spectacle, drama and action. The songs had recall but they didn't overpower the visuals.

Sweeping melody

The movie was done in computer graphics but the main characters, Aki and Grey, had very human and sympathetic sentiments even if they moved around the cold, futuristic sci-fi settings. The sweeping melody of "The Dream Within" made the emotional interactions of the characters more believable and touching.

The generic story of a girl who has to save the world has been done before. But how the twists in the story play out makes the viewing more worthwhile. Likewise, every song gives life and personality to each scene.

"Spirit Dreams Inside," originally done in Japanese by L'Arc-en-Ciel, was performed in English by Lynne Hobday. It's emotional but laid-back. Morose but sad. Haunting but not overbearing.

Space battle

The music played by the London Symphony Orchestra heightened the action and the alien space battles onscreen. The brass and string instrumentation stirs up an unsettling feeling within you but leaves you totally immersed in the action.

The local band, Wolfgang, contributed their track, "No Falter" to the soundtrack. It's a hard-driving song. It had grit, sarcasm, angst and wit.

The movie leaves you in a sense of wonder long after you're left the theaters, while the beat and lyrics of the songs continue to pound inside your head days after you've viewed the film. And you'll also begin to think about life and love in the real, adult sense.

Seeing Red
Live on Release
Warner Music Phils.

Pinoys generally like gentle, sentimental ballads but Live on Release injects wit, fun, angst and sarcasm into their hip pop rock songs. Brittin Karroll (guitars), Leah Emmott (drums), Foxx Herst (bass guitars) and Colette Trudeau (vocals) can deliver the goods without breaking your eardrums. And their songs resonate with truth, honesty and enthusiasm.

Cool song

"I'm Afraid of Britney Spears" is a cool song that encourages teens to establish their own individuality and tastes. They're not really bashing Christina Aguilera nor Britney Spears, but they'd rather not be poor copycats of these teen female icons.

"Slow Down" is a take on how teens love to be on the fast lane. How they try to rush things and squeeze every single activity to fit into a day. They are into trends and love to experiment. But in the long run, wanting to be grown-up too soon burns them out.

"Emotional Griptape" is about a guy's cluelessness when it comes to relationships. It's about being taken for granted and the girl's desire to skate away. Nope, these girls will not wait around until he finally pays attention.

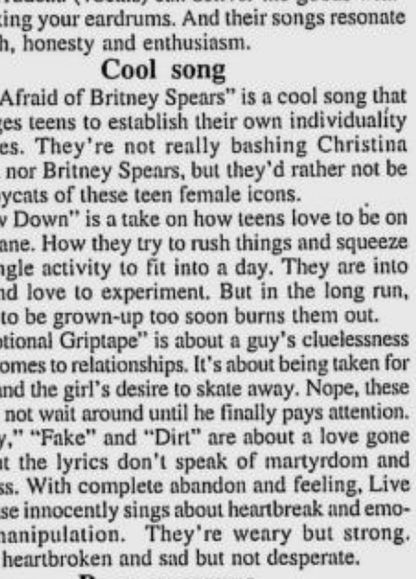
"Why," "Fake" and "Dirt" are about a love gone sour. But the lyrics don't speak of martyrdom and loneliness. With complete abandon and feeling, Live on Release innocently sings about heartbreak and emotional manipulation. They're weary but strong. They're heartbroken and sad but not desperate.

Peer pressure

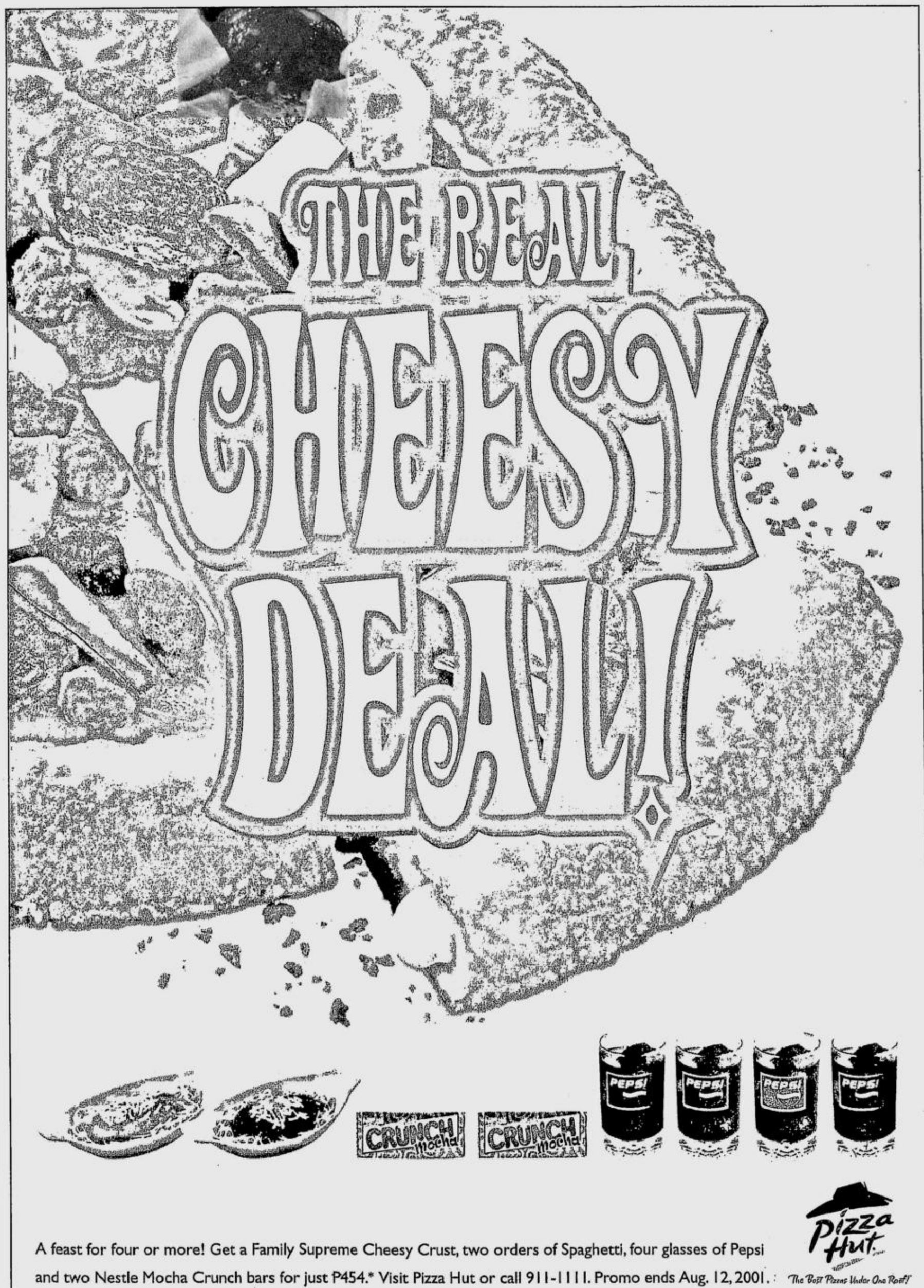
"Get With It" is about peer pressure and being associated with the wrong crowd. The melody is spunky but relaxed and in command.

"Don't Leave Me Alone" is about keeping and holding on to love, even if there's a bit of uncertainty and hurt.

The hopeless romantic in them hasn't grown up because they expect their partner to be there for the long haul. Well it's not very realistic but the sincerity in Colette's voice half-convinces you that maybe a guy can really love you forever.



"SEEING RED." Truth, honesty and enthusiasm.



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ENTERTAINMENT BOOKSHELF

Ricky Martin breaks down stereotypes and transcends his ethnicity

By Leia Torre

MARTIN. Has opened doors for other Latin artists.

RICKY Martin's passion for Latin music, incredible drive to succeed, incomparable bon-bon shaking and strikingly good looks have taken him a long way from his teeny-bopper days and earned him the title of the sexiest male singer on the music scene.

He's helped open doors for other Latin artists, like Jennifer Lopez and Mark Anthony, to join him where the musical action is.

He first blew America and the rest of the world away when he performed live during the 41st Grammy Awards. Even host Rosie O'Donnell was caught by surprise. She exclaimed, "And what about that Ricky Martin? I've never heard of him before, but I'm enjoying him *sooo* much!!!"

On the other hand, Filipinos already knew him ever since he sang about catching that 7:30 plane in the "Locomotion" song he sang with Lea Salonga years ago.

A little gem of a book provides diehard fans with lots of juicy tidbits and facts about Ricky. "Rockin' the House" chronicles Ricky's humble beginnings from his stint with Menudo and "Les Miserables" on Broadway, all the way to that momentous Grammy performance—and after.

Some facts about the singer who won't stop livin' *la vida loca:* He was born on Dec. 24, 1971 and named Enrique Martin Morales. Although his parents were divorced, Ricky says his childhood was "very healthy."

Maternal grandmother

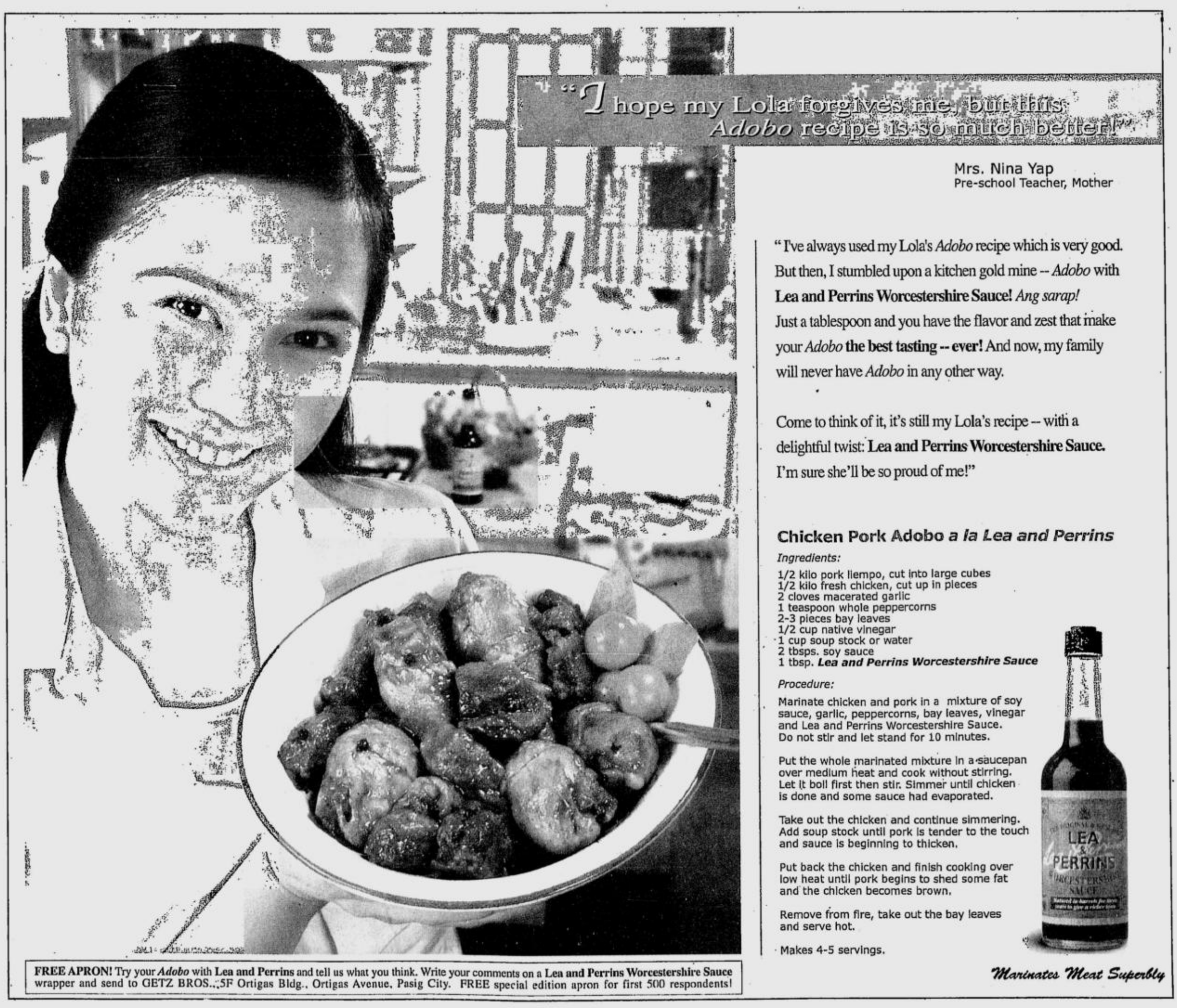
He, however, confesses to a much closer friendship with his maternal grandmother, the woman he loves most in the world. Ricky manifested his passion for performance very early. By age 10, he was already starring in commercials. It wasn't until after two years and three auditions that he became part of Menudo. It was a dream come true for him.

"I didn't want to be a singer, not then. What I wanted was to be in Menudo. I wanted to give concerts, to travel, to meet pretty girls," he grins. Ricky appeared first with the group in 1984. He eventually became the group's most popular member and was lovingly nicknamed, "Little Ricky." Ricky left Menudo when he was 14.

He went on to finish high school and awarded himself a trip to New York after graduation. There, he took a brief respite from the demands of show business and fame. Six months later, Ricky itched to perform again so he headed back home. He assumed a new image and proceeded to conquer the theater and TV soap operas.

One of his soaps, "Alcanzar Una Estrella II (To Reach for the Stars II)," was made into a full-length film and won for him the Heraldo, Mexico's equivalent of the Academy Awards, for best actor.

Ricky teamed up with buddy and ex-Menudo Robby Draco Rosa, who helped him produce his album. He titled his first album "Ricky Martin," the same as his first English-language album released seven years later, followed by "Me Amaras (Will You Love Me)." *(To be concluded)*



CD shows why Jo Ramos rocks

By Behn Cervantes

(Conclusion)

TWO months ago, Jo Ramos gave me a CD of her rock collection "Jo Ramos: Low Profile." Naturally, I was grateful for her kindness but since I am not a fan of funky music and instead am prone to classical and conventional forms of music, I put the CD aside. However, I promised myself I would listen to it at some future date in the company of a younger soul who could instruct me on its contemporary virtues.

Challenge

One morning when I felt I was up to the challenge and open to listen to "loud" music (as I generally term such pieces), I picked up the CD and played it while I was at the computer. I meant to kill two birds with one stone and in case I found the selections too loud I would replace the CD with Albinioni or someone more musically soothing.

To my surprise, I worked at my computer and did not mind the music. After a spell, I had to stop my work because I was so taken by the distinctive and original lyrics. The music had not turned me off as I feared it would. In fact, I involuntarily blurted out, "*Aba, magaling si* Jo *at malinis ang gawa ng* CD."

It was obvious that the CD was not a product of an ego trip. This kind of professional product must have taken many hours of hard work, planning and dedication. Furthermore, her lyrics made good sense. And, what about the "funky" music of Jo Ramos? Well, I was pleasantly surprised. In fact, I stopped what I was doing because I had started to move with the music. She made me sit up and take note of her daring musical expression. It wasn't my cup of music but it had purpose, integrity.

Commitment

This well-thought-out CD was not produced as a pastime. It was done with total commitment and conviction. Without doubt, this musical statement demanded that Jo, the soloist and producer, work on it hands-on.

I had to let her know I heard her plea for artistic acceptance. There was sincerity and integrity, so she deserved more exposure than she has gotten. She had to know that she had an artistic ally even if my taste for music is disparate from her own.

I immediately tried to get in touch with her to apologize for not having listened to the CD earlier. I called my friend Angela Timtiman to get a new number since I could not connect with the pager number I had. She gave me the same one I already had. I called Maria V. Montelibano to inquire if she might have a new number. When I told Maria why, she prodded me to call her. "She will be so pleased to know your reaction to her CD," Maria said.

RAMOS. A plea far artistic acceptance.

But, more than that I wanted to apologize to fellow artist Jo for not taking her seriously. I may have been like many others who unconsciously dismissed her merely because she had been a First Daughter.

Personal statement

The CD revealed an ardent artist making a personal statement. I admired her zeal and firm conviction as an advocate of this musical genre. Finally, I asked my niece Fini to please text Jo since my cell phone often overwhelms me with its technological demands. When Jo called back, we agreed to meet.

I confessed that I had taken my time about listening to the CD that she had so kindly given me. I had my misgivings, but I was so happy that I was proven wrong. Furthermore, I was elated to know that indeed she was an artist.

Why wasn't this record better known, better marketed? "Well, the Filipinos are victims of western influence. It is so difficult to penetrate the local market, too," Jo observed. She expressed her frustration but wisely said that her efforts worked in her favor in the end because she honed her craft and experienced the realities of the profession in the process.

Who did she credit for her development? "Mon Faustino transformed my ideas in rhythm, voice and even choreography into a reality for live performances." When she worked with Gary Valenciano as a back-up singer, she noted at close range his dedication and demand for perfection.

Advice

"Gary V is the epitome of pop. He is a high-energy performer. Gary V and Mon are the two *kuyas* I can turn to for advice. I can cry to them," she exclaimed.

She also cited *a capella*, the classic concept of Ryan Cayabyab. "The three prove that hard work will show in the final product, which is why I work really hard even though I get little in return."

A combination of admiration and a little *inggit* drove her to hone her craft further and strike out as a soloist. "After all, I knew the guys. I wanted to do what they were doing, but I wanted to do it my way."

What did she want to do? "I want to combine ethnic instruments with western ones. I want to start on it but I don't have the networking. To put out the CD, I had to do it myself. It was really hard work. My musician friends helped by briefing me on the do's and don'ts of the project."

What drives her to do this? "I want to document my stuff before it becomes stale. I love live performances because there is need for great discipline while you are singing and dancing. However, I want to perform something novel, although I do not have the ambition of becoming a superstar.

"Nevertheless, I keep asking myself: 'What will it take to package my work? Why is it so difficult to put my ideas and performances into commercial packaging?'

Acceptance

However, despite everything Jo feels, "I must have done something right." When did she feel

CD/ p.C7

Martin Andanar and Aljo Bendijo like being where the action is

BY MARY ANN A. BAUTISTA

ANDANAR. Passion for police reporting.

WITH the emergence of early morning shows and primetime newscasts, news reporters have a better chance of reaching their audience.

Disaster

They can stand on the street and report a political event, disaster or horrible crime and become an overnight sensation. "Unang Hirit's" Martin Andanar and "TV Patrol's" Aljo Bendijo both admit that being famous has its merits but they'd rather prove their worth first and gain the respect of their fellow broadcast journalists.

Both natives of Mindanao, they share a passion for police reporting because that's where the action is. Aljo currently covers the Southern Police District as a news reporter, while Martin covered the Southern Police District as a news reporter for eight months before his marriage.

Why do they love police reporting?

"It's challenging. Sometimes you see things that are unfolding right before your eyes. *Minsan katabi na pala namin ang mga bangkay sa* helicopter, *hindi pa namin alam.* It's also a good way to get close to the *masa*," Aljo notes.

Different street culture

"I consider myself a police beat reporter because that's where I started. I just like to be where the action is. Being exposed to it excites me because there's a different street culture at night, and you see more criminals. I think there are more killings at night than at daytime.

"I've seen dead bodies, too. Police reporting takes the best out of you because it's heavier than other beats," Martin shares.

What's the best and worst thing about being a newscaster?

"I love my job. The best thing about it is that I get new information everyday. *Pag gising ko, nakikinig na ako ng balita. Masarap maghanap ng istorya. Kahit madaling araw na, minsan kailangan ng* follow-up," Aljo says.

Truth

"The best thing about it is that you get to tell the truth and report what's really happening. The worst thing about it is the pressure to be very good. Committing mistakes on-camera is a big letdown," Martin says.

Discipline, thinking fast and modulating their voices are just some of the skills that Martin and Aljo honed on radio. But they disclose that improving their mastery of the Tagalog language is a must now that they're newscasters.

Competition

They aren't rattled or scared about competition, and both take rivalry in stride. Martin's contemporaries in police reporting attest that his fair good looks enable him to get scoops from female police officers and gay cops.

What's the best news story that they've done so far?

Martin proudly beams, "The Cherry Hills subdivision landslide. I saw that Filipinos are good by nature, they want to help. And the incident showed me that we have to implement certain rules to protect our environment."

Aljo smiles, "I treat every story as my best. But the story on the Bobby Dacer murder case made the headlines months ago. I went to Indang, Cavite and we followed the suspects in his murder. It was a big story."

Aljo dreams of having a one-on-one interview with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Panfilo Lacson. Martin wants to interview former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu—also Collin Powell, because he could have been the first Afro-American president of the United States.

So, which show and newscaster do you prefer, dear televiewer?

Heart for the poor

FACE TO FACE

Inday Badiday

IF God were good and loving and merciful and all that, why are there street children? For that matter, if there is a God, why are there mothers who are forced to watch their sick children die because there's no money for proper medication? And, with all the hoopla about providence being one of God's uniquely divine characteristics, why does hunger claim millions of precious lives all over the world each year?

Indeed, why are there poor people around us?

Public service

I remember asking these questions many years ago when I was deep into public service work with "Eye to Eye." I asked them whenever I went to distribute relief goods to calamity areas where people's eyes were as bleary as their hopes, or on medical missions in far-flung barrios where a simple flu killed children.

And I continue to ask them whenever I read the papers or get to watch the news on the tube—especially now that it has become fashionable to express concern about the wretchedness of the plight of the poor.

Truth to tell, I personally find helping the poor such a laborious ordeal. I don't mean the small and big generosities that people usually must do for the so-called least of their brethren, but even the government and the Church have confessed to their monumental failure to help the poor, so what are people like little, inconsequential me going to do?

Immensity

The immensity of the problem boggles the mind. Like, the best and brightest in every administration have come up with grandiose plans to alleviate if not totally eradicate poverty, but we're in deeper dung now than ever before. I mean, did you see the rage that blazed in the eyes of the great unwashed in the so-called Edsa 3 rebellion?

But, there's hope. I say this not because I simply choose to be positive about negative things, because what other choices does one really have? I'm talking about Couples for Christ.

Yes, I asked the same question at first—what does the Couples for Christ family renewal ministry have to do with the poor? For one, doesn't Couples for Christ already have its hands full trying to mend the broken marriages of people without having to help the poor?

For another, isn't this group mainly composed of rich members who can't possibly be bothered by such mundane problems, like where do you get the next meal to feed your family?

Well, I found out that there are a lot of mistaken notions about Couples for Christ. Several weeks back, it celebrated its 20th anniversary and 60,000 of its 1.2 million members all over the world converged at the Marikina sports complex.

Amazing

It was amazing to find that Couples for Christ has done some concrete, impressive work in the area of helping the poor, not just to rise from their poverty but also to gain back their dignity as persons.

Yes, this group is not only into the spiritual healing of ailing marriages. It is also in such non-spiritual arenas as youth empowerment, waste management, environmental protection, socio-political renewal—and total human liberation, which encompasses the many facets of its work with the poor.

CFC started its work with the poor five years ago by undertaking a spiritual empowerment program among the youth in Bagong Silang, Caloocan City, the country's biggest squatter relocation area, where half a million people live lives of quietly curdling desperation.

These were no ordinary youths. They were notorious drug pushers, *akyat-bahay* gang members, young people who had made a lifestyle of violence and danger and death. But when they got to know about God and Jesus Christ and such alien concepts as having a personal relationship with the Lord, they began to tread the path to conversion.

Inadequate

CFC soon realized, however, that providing only spiritual nourishment was grossly inadequate in addressing the poor's needs. A four-pronged program was then devised which specifically took care of the poor beneficiaries' health (Lusog), education (Sibol for kids and Siga for out-of-school youth), shelter (Tatag) and livelihood (Sikap).

And CFC is not just into transforming the lives of individual families, but of entire communities. In Bagong Silang now, there's a piece of heaven pulsating right in the middle of what used to be a valley of desolation and despair.

Children who used to just loiter in the streets are fed and going to school. Young people who used to abuse and sell drugs are taught a livelihood and are now productive income-earners for their families. Shabby, dilapidated homes have become colorful, decent dwellings not just for tired bodies but weary souls as well.

And there are clean toilets, pretty gardens, and recreational facilities. Doctors regularly come to check on the people's health. Feeding of the undernourished has been systematized for sustainability. And there's *kapitbahayan* to insure that the people have the correct mindset to take care of themselves.

Resources

And the most wonderful thing is, because of the huge resources of the CFC network—it is not just in all the provinces but in 86 countries worldwide, as well—it is able replicate its work in Bagong Silang in other parts of the country.

I can never forget the glow in CFC family ministries director Tony Meloto's face when he said, "Time will come, despair will no longer be the poor's middle name. They will regain their dignity and right to a bright future, which they so richly deserve."

I'd like to answer my own questions now. There are poor people because the rich need them to see Christ in their lives. But the rich can only see Christ in the poor when the poor can also experience Christ in the rich.

Who's the country's top pop diva?

BY NOELANI TORRE

MISALUCHA. Soul singing.

WHEN we asked some people who they thought the country's top pop diva was, they came up with various notions concerning what a diva is and what she isn't. Some opined that a diva isn't just a female singer who sings well, a diva sings exceptionally, divinely, *unforgettably!* Others felt that a true diva only sang songs that were "difficult," almost operatic.

No noontime shows

One said that a diva does not "do" noontime shows, and another thought that for a diva to be a diva, all her shows must be sold-out.

It's hard to determine where to draw the line, especially in this country where every passable singer is calling herself a diva. So, let our respondents make their own definitions of a diva and come up with local singers who fill the bill:

Versatile

"Diva? Top? That would be Lani Misalucha. Her voice is already mature, her alto is thick and she can go from very low to very high. She's versatile. And she's so soothing to listen to. It's not like the shouting that Regine and Pops do. Even if it's already loud, *di pa rin masakit sa tenga.* Her songs are from the heart and the soul, what you can really call soul singing."—***Reeda de Guzman, Zamboanga City***

"Regine Velasquez. Because of her voice, I think it's on the same level as that of Mariah Carey's. It's a strong voice, *puwedeng* very high or very low. She can sustain her notes easily.!"—***Clara Alfredo, Manila***

Unforgettable

"Jaya. She has that unforgettable African sound in her singing. Husky, smooth, what we call *buo.* It just rolls over you."—***Gerard Tionko, Mandaluyong City***

Sultry

"Lani Misalucha, because of her sultry voice. It seems effortless and her voice is full-bodied, not strained."—***Ian Reyes, Quezon City***

Perfect pitch

"Ivy Violan. She has perfect pitch and good vocal quality. She's also very expressive. Her voice has a wide range and she really gets into the songs she sings. She's versatile, she sings in different styles."—***Uriel Erasquin, Iligan City***

"Lani Misalucha. She has a powerful voice, it's unforgettable—both calming and tingly at the same time. I love her attitude while she's singing—her feelings are there for everyone to see and experience. You can see it in her expression and her delivery. Her voice is full and I like the way it soars from low notes to high."—***Neliza Macapayag, Cagayan de Oro***

"Kuh Ledesma. She's the '*pinaka*-diva' because she doesn't do noontime shows, unlike the others. They don't seem special anymore, they're starting to look ordinary because they're overexposed. Kuh is still mysterious, special. Of course, she's also extremely gifted. I prefer her calm and soothing voice to the others."—***Christina Angeles, Antipolo***

CD shows why . . .

(From page C6)

a sense of acceptance? "When my family, especially my father and mother, started to see my shows. My father rarely gives compliments but when he does, that's it. However, even during his presidency, he allowed me to do the family bloopers and technology-oriented projects.

"On the other hand, my mother taught me to make something out of nothing. It was she who recognized my artistic inclinations and respected my ambitions." Her other artistic interests include interior decoration.

It's been many years since those troubled times when she used to stay in the room all day. "I was too sensitive and emotional when I was younger. I had feelings of rejection. But my mother knew I would outgrow the phase."

She may have outgrown those early fears but the angst has enriched the artist named Jo Ramos. She may take a low profile but has great ambitions that she hopes to fulfill, so that she can leave something behind that will become a significant part of Philippine music.

After all, Jo Ramos "contributes her contemporary way of bringing together heritage, history and the future visually on the center stage" since she "supports that the Filipino artist is equal to the best in the world."

Such advocacy and integrity need greater recognition and more popular acceptance by the audience she so wants to make beautiful contemporary music for with the rhythm, sound and beat that they can sing, listen to, and above all dance their happy hearts away!

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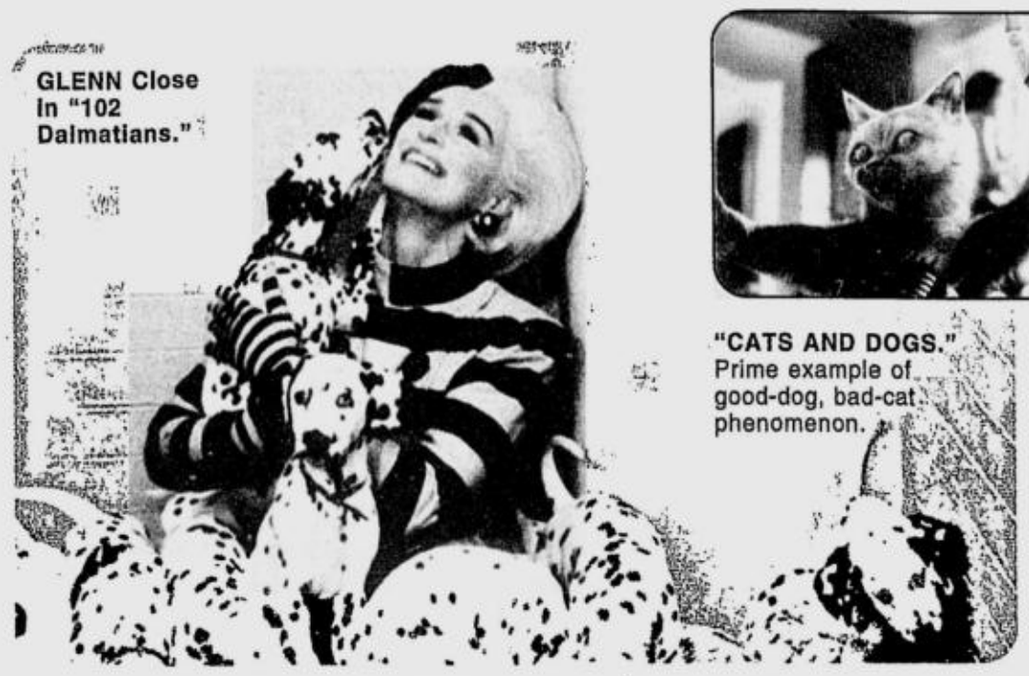
Film portrayals of cats and dogs go way back



GLENN Close in "102 Dalmatians."

"CATS AND DOGS." Prime example of good-dog, bad-cat phenomenon.

Hollywood has its claws out for kitties, consistently portraying them as scheming and manipulative

BY CHRISTY LEMIRE

NEW YORK—Don't let Mr. Tinkles fool you. Sure, he's soft, white and fluffy. He even purrs and meows.

But Mr. Tinkles, the villain in the new movie "Cats & Dogs," is pure evil, perhaps one of the most diabolical characters ever to dominate the silver screen. Wanna know why? Because he's a cat.

Devious

Hollywood has its claws out for the kitties, consistently portraying them as scheming, devious and manipulative—and the cats who can talk are even worse.

Think of Snowbell in "Stuart Little," Catwoman in "Batman Returns," the cartoon cats Sylvester and Tom. Think of the frisky feline in the 1972 animated feature "Fritz the Cat," who smoked pot and sparked riots.

Dogs, meanwhile, are sweet and cuddly, loyal and trusty and true. They always save the day. They never do anything bad.

Think of "Lassie" and "Benji," "Lady and the Tramp" and "Old Yeller," all 101 Dalmatians (and the extra pup added for the sequel). Think of "My Dog Skip"—and try not to get choked up in the process.

"Cats & Dogs," which opens across the United States Wednesday, is a prime example of the good-dog, bad-cat phenomenon. Mr. Tinkles, a power-hungry Persian, leads his feline minions in a fight for world domination against a group of secret agent dogs, led by a beagle puppy named Lou, who only want to protect the humans.

Stereotypes

The film's director, Larry Guterman, said portrayals of dogs and cats in film merely reflect the stereotypes we project onto them.

"(Mr. Tinkles) doesn't represent all cats. He's a rogue feline," Guterman said. "There's a back story—he was kicked out of the cat council so he's sort of embittered."

One of the most memorable examples of a cat being depicted as a villain is 1963's "From Russia With Love," in which a white cat sits in the lap of the evil Blofeld, said Boo Allen, a Dallas film historian—and an admitted dog person.

Mike Myers spoofed that relationship in both "Austin Powers" movies in the late '90s, with Dr. Evil incessantly petting a hairless feline as he con

FILM/p.D2

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DIAZ-ABAYA. Her films "depict the joy and sadness of common people with great vitality."

Marilou Diaz-Abaya wins 2001 Fukuoka Arts and Culture Prize

BY NESTOR U. TORRE

LAST July 18, the Asian cultural spotlight focused on the Philippines, by way of the signal honor bestowed on Filipino director Marilou Diaz-Abaya for her exceptional films.

Diaz-Abaya is the 2001 laureate of the Fukuoka Arts and Culture Prize, given annually by the city of Fukuoka in Japan to distinguished arts workers and leaders in the region who have contributed greatly to the arts, science and culture of Asia.

Vanguard

Specifically, Marilou has been deemed deserving of the prized award for being "at the vanguard of contemporary Philippine filmmakers. She conveys the Asian spirit to the world through works that depict the joy and sadness of common people with great vitality.

"Her superb films are indictments and harshly examine the reality of the Philippines today, and are filled with warmth and affection for the common people, surviving on their strength."

Three other Asians are recipients of the Fukuoka Asian Culture Prizes this year—Muhammad Yunus from Bangladesh for Poverty Eradication (Grand Prize); Nayami Yujiro of Japan for Development Economics (Academic Prize); and Thawan Duchanee of Thailand for Painting (Arts and Culture Prize).

Diaz-Abaya is only the second Filipino to be honored in the Fukuoka Asian Culture Prizes' 12 years of existence, after architect Leandro V. Locsin. She won over a field of 135 candidates from 29 countries.

The prizes will be officially awarded in Fukuoka this September, but last Wednesday, Marilou was honored at a press conference attended by two officials who flew in from Japan, Ms Toshiko Takaki, director of the Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize office, and Ms Takako Usui, from the International Affairs Dept., General Affairs and Planning Bureau.

Importance

Their presence signified the importance they gave to Marilou's having been chosen as one of this year's Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize laureates.

A PAGE from the Fukuoka filmfest's program on Diaz-Abaya and her movies.

It was revealed at the press conference that aside from Diaz-Abaya's exceptional achievements, she was a personal favorite of the people of Fukuoka because she has been exhibiting her films at the Focus on Asia—Fukuoka International Film Festival for six straight years.

Ms Takaki further shared that Marilou's movies were particularly popular with female viewers at the Fukuoka filmfest because they depicted the empowerment of women.

For her part, Marilou shared her thoughts and feelings regarding her award and the city of Fukuoka by way of these remarks:

"It is with deepest gratitude that I accept the Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize. The honor is not mine alone, but more importantly, the Philippines', and it is to my countrymen that I shall continue to dedicate my films.

Unique culture

"The Filipino people are blessed with a unique culture, or, more accurately, multi-cultures which creative artists are challenged to harvest in expressing our collective human condition.

"Today, more than at any other time in our history, the development and recognition of our arts and culture may be the most important source of inspiration to redeem our self-worth and pride as a nation.

"The city government and people of Fukuoka provide us an excellent example of the conservation and promotion of Asian arts and culture. As a filmmaker, I am particularly awed by their collection of thousands of Asian films, including dozens of Philippine feature films, in a state-of-the-art archive, where the images and sounds of our lives shall be preserved forever, in perpetuity, easily accessible for generations of public viewing.

"Such value given to heritage speaks of a people who cherish the cultural roots of human life. That Fukuoka should now gift us with the distinction of a Culture Prize should renew our resolve to give our own heritage a higher premium especially during this time of crises, calamities and demoralization.

"Perhaps it is precisely in times of hunger and material poverty when food for the soul becomes the most important nourishment required to sustain a meaningful life.

Frequent trips

"For a decade now I have been making frequent trips to Japan, but going to Fukuoka every September is always something special because for a whole month, the Asian Arts are celebrated in various festivals.

"The Fukuoka Asian International Film Festival has exhibited a dozen Philippine films, and this year, the film "Anak" directed by Rory Quintos, will be screened together with a selected retrospective of my works.

"The Festival Director, renowned film historian, scholar and critic Tadao Sato-sensei and his wife Hisako-san have contributed invaluably towards the internationalization of Asian Cinema. Their relentless endeavor is to teach the world to watch Asian films in an Asian way.

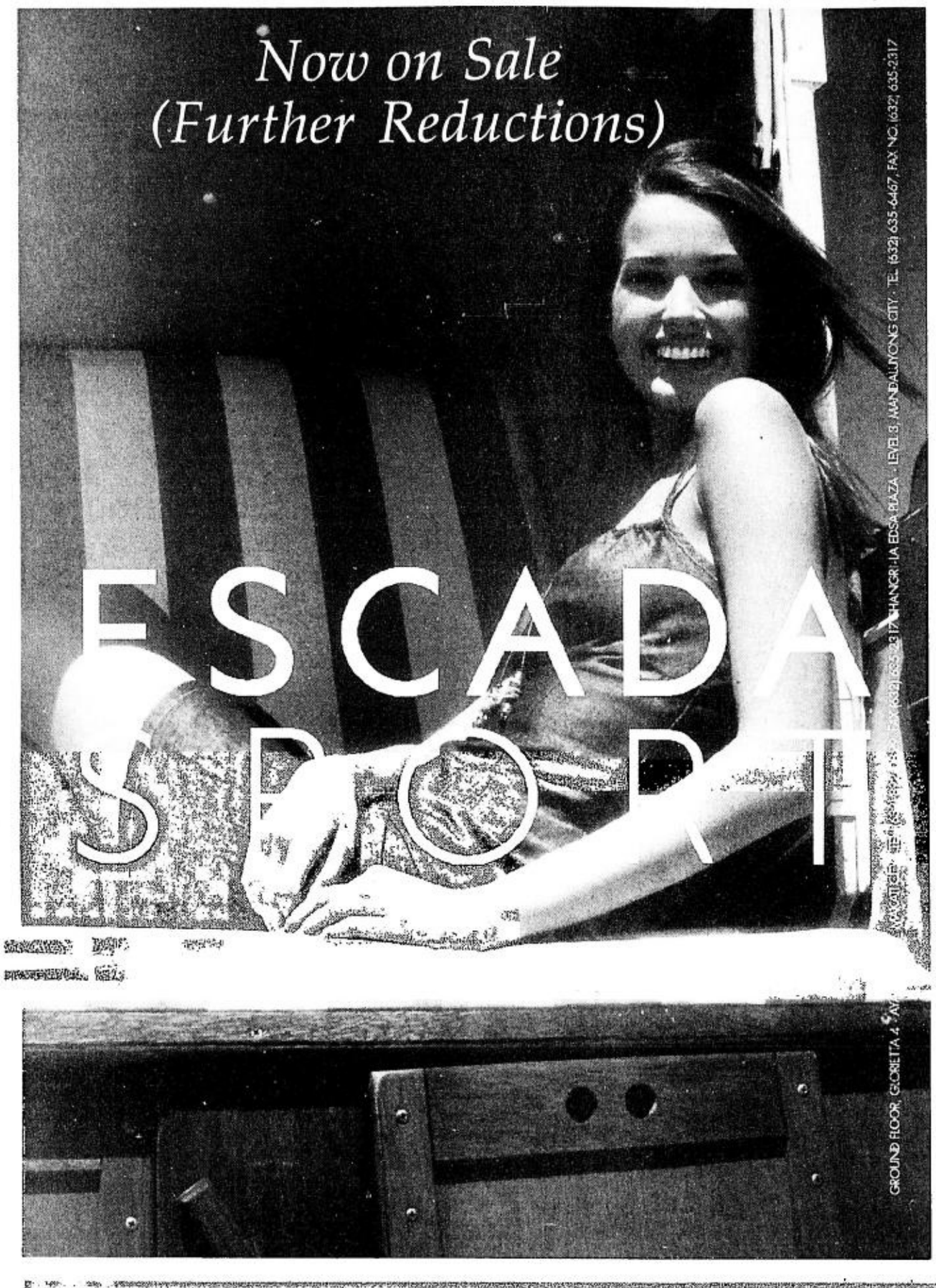
"Fukuoka is a beautiful city embracing the sea with an excellent harbor not only for ships of commerce, but also for vessels of great ideas. I pay tribute to our friends in Fukuoka for welcoming artists from all over Asia, and for hosting one of the world's best sanctuaries for art and culture.

"With Providence, may we reciprocate their generosity by sharing with them, through Philippine art, the heirlooms of our cultural legacy.

"In closing, I would like to express my personal appreciation and thanks to the organizers of this conference for coming to Manila despite a travel advisory to refrain from visiting Philippine shores at this time.

"Please accept our assurances that, in this country, when we say 'Mabuhay!' we sincerely wish you a very long, safe and happy life!

"Domo arigato gozaimasu!"



Film portrayals . .

(From page D1)

cocted devious schemes.

"That would ruin his image if a Westie were sitting in his lap," Allen said.

Cats are always the bad guys because they're not cuddly, Allen said.

"Dogs are your friends. You can pick them up and play with them and love them and all that. Cats are aloof, and it's easy to make something aloof seem evil," he said. "Cruella De Vil—she was probably a cat person."

Talking pig

In 1995's "Babe," the dogs on the farm treat the talking pig like a family member—the mother of the pack even lets him call her "Mom"—while the family cat lies to Babe and manipulates him.

Even in movies in which animals aren't the focus, cats are mischievous. In last year's "Meet the Parents," Jinks causes major trouble for Ben Stiller when he visits his potential in-laws, and Robert De Niro treats the cat with more humanity that he gives his daughter's boyfriend.

There are rare exceptions: The rabid, terrorizing St. Bernard of 1983's "Cujo," and Mr. Beefy, the talking bulldog in last year's "Little Nicky" who cursed, tossed back shots at strip clubs and accosted poodles on the sidewalk.

Joan Miller of the Cat Fanciers' Association's board of directors said art has portrayed cats as villains for centuries. She cited 15th century Italian paintings that show a cat sitting at Judas' feet at Jesus' Last Supper.

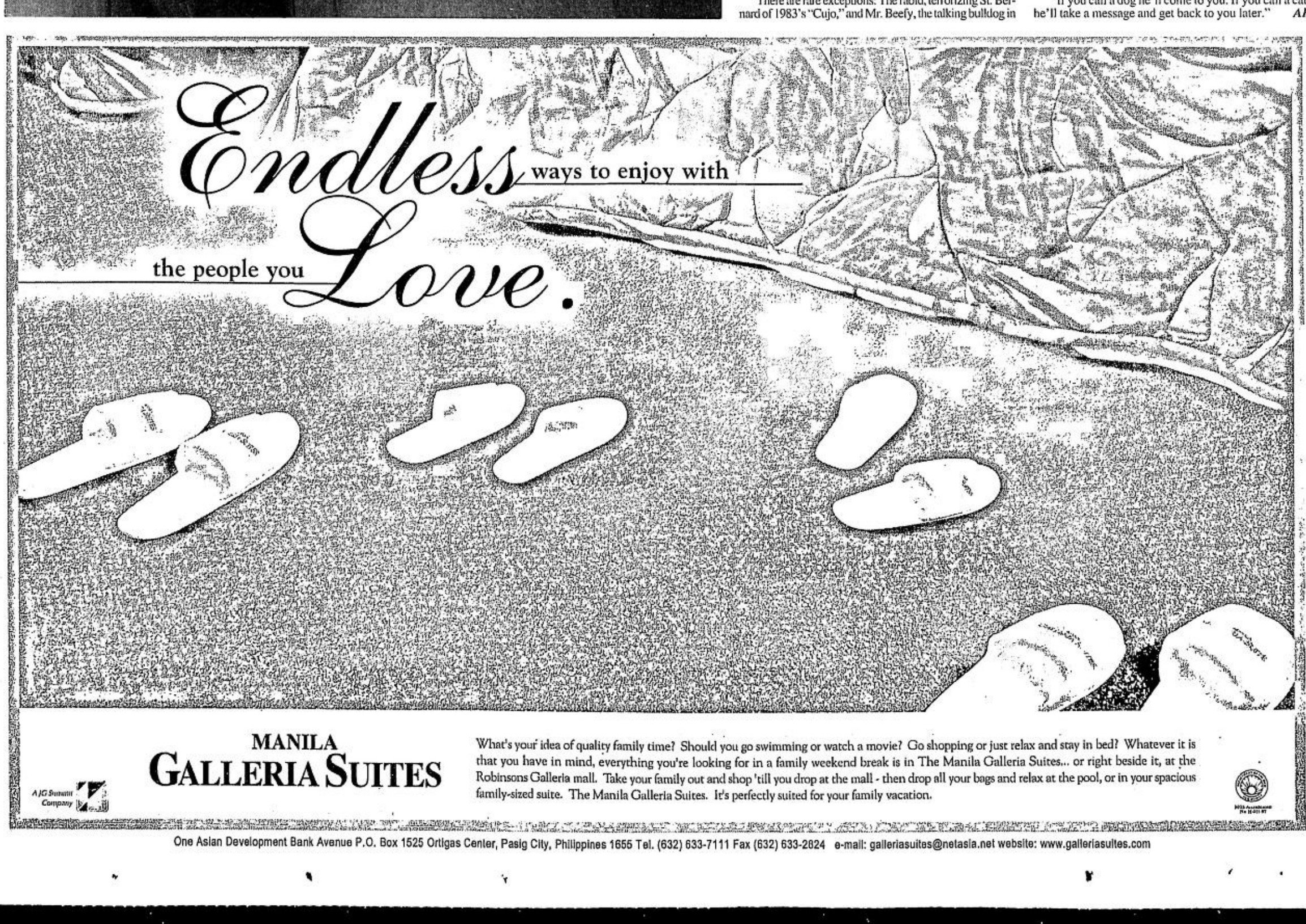
"It's hard to understand cats. They just remain elusive, so people tend to maybe attribute characteristics to these animals that they don't completely understand and that they can't control," said Miller, who has bred champion Abyssinians.

Admiration

"But I think, in a way, it's admiration. People . . . make jokes about cats and how they don't seem to try to get appreciation. They just go about their own way," she said. "Other people would like to have that ability themselves, to completely be in control of themselves."

Nancy Matlock of the American Kennel Club headquarters in Raleigh, North Carolina, said the joke is:

"If you call a dog he'll come to you. If you call a cat, he'll take a message and get back to you later." *AP*



'Citizen Kane' in 'RKO 281' exclusively on HBO

"[The movies] make the sort of comment only a novel can make, an allusion to the world in which people live, the psychological and economic motivations, the influences of the period in which they lived."—Orson Welles

EVER wonder how the great movie makers of our time, such as Martin Scorsese, Steven Spielberg, Francis Ford Coppola and Stanley Kubrick got interested in film making? Or even where their inspirations might have stemmed from?

Cinematic pioneer

Well long before the Scorseses, Spielbergs, Coppolas and Kubricks were making waves in the movie industry, there was Orson Welles. Orson Welles was more than a director, producer, writer and actor. He was also a cinematic pioneer: his work ambitious, unique, imaginative, daring and ultimately highly regarded and influential. In the words of Martin Scorsese, Orson Welles was "responsible for inspiring more people to be film directors than anyone else in the history of the cinema."

Presently, the gifted writer-director-actor-producer who was spurned by Hollywood during the last 20 years of his life and branded as uncommercial, is experiencing an uncanny case of posthumous demand. Scripts left behind by Welles are now hot Hollywood properties.

Close friend

Ironically, Welles predicted such a clamoring for his works. "He said, 'Just wait till I die. Everything will happen," recalls filmmaker Henry Jaglom, Welles' close friend and business partner. "He said, 'They'll be coming out of the woodwork. They'll dig up old scripts that I had something to do with or they'll create stories about my life."

Indeed, the prophecy has come true, given that not only has an adaptation of "The Big Brass Ring" and "The Dreamers" been remade for feature film presentation, but HBO has also released its HBO Original Movie, "RKO281," which chronicles the making of ``Citizen Kane," and the obstacles Welles faced in getting his film to screen.

"RKO281." Orson Welles takes on William Randolph Hearst.

Based on the Academy Award-nominated documentary "The Battle Over Citizen Kane," "RKO 281," premiering exclusively on HBO on July 28 at 9 p.m., focuses on the hostile reaction to ``Citizen Kane" from William Randolph Hearst, the most powerful American newspaper publisher of the 1930s and 1940s.

The film begins by tracing Orson Wells from his humble beginnings in Winsconsin; his early days in vaudeville, to his meteoric rise as an actor and director in New York theatre and radio, including his memorable and daring radio production of "War Of The Worlds," which sent the country into a state of panic.

Boy wonder

Described as a "boy wonder," the next logical step for Welles is to enter Hollywood. At a lavish dinner of media magnate William Randolph Hearst, Welles and Hearst lock horns as Hearst disapproves of a bull-fighting story told by Welles at the dinner table. This leads to Welles' inspiration to make a movie about Hearst.

Warned by his friend and scriptwriter, Herman "Mank" Mankiewicz (played by John Malkovich) of the mogul's unbridled power, Orson Welles is far too intrigued and unfazed to care, leading to the birth of "Citizen Kane" and the start of a battle over "Citizen Kane:" Hearst to destroy the film and Welles to have the world view it.

"RKO 281" is the fascinating story of the Hollywood Studio system—the forces that actually run it and the rebel that thumbed his nose in the face of authority.

For historians and Welles fans, "RKO 281" peppers the drama with images and scenes that resonate with greater meanings. "RKO 281" is a film that pays homage in its own way to Orson Welles and his film by making its creation one of the most exciting Hollywood stories put on screen.

'The Animal' is a howling, barking, wild comedy

MARVIN Mange will soon have the strength of a mountain lion, the agility of a chimpanzee and the affections of . . . a goat? His life is going to be a zoo thanks to a weird experiment that invites him to take a walk on the wild side! Fil-American comedian Rob Schneider ("Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo") is Marvin Mange in Columbia Pictures' comedy smash "The Animal."

A police evidence file clerk, Marvin dreams of becoming a full-fledged cop like his dad—all he has to do is pass the physical endurance test.

Robbery

One night, while Marvin is left alone at the precinct, he answers a 911 call. There's a robbery in progress, and with no one to assist, a bungling Marvin races to the scene. The bad guys get away, and Marvin ends up in a near-fatal car crash. As he is pulled from the wreckage by a shadowy figure, he has no idea that he is about to become the guinea pig for a bizarre procedure.

His rescuer, the eccentric Dr. Wilder, has cracked the genetic code. In his private barnyard lab, he repairs Marvin's body with a strange fusion of animal organs, including those from a performing sea lion and a talented dog, to name a few.

Procedure

When he returns to his job at the station, Marvin has no memory of Wilder's procedure. He credits a new health drink for his bulging muscles and keen sense of smell. On the outside, Marvin looks normal, but inside, he never knows which beastly behavior will emerge as he swings through the urban jungle.

After he sniffs out a drug smuggler at the airport, Marvin is a hero. He is instantly made a full-fledged officer by the ever-trusting Chief Wilson (Edward Asner) and left under the watchful eye of his increasingly suspicious boss, Sgt. Doug Sisk (John C. McGinley, "Any Given Sunday").

Life gets more complicated when he meets and falls for Rianna (Colleen Haskell, "Survivor"), a former tree hugger who now volunteers at a local animal shelter. When Marvin's mountain lion vibes kick in, all hell breaks loose, not only at the shelter but at the local butcher shop. As the animals within him start to take over, Marvin's world gets more unpredictable by the minute.

"We laughed so hard when we were writing this thing," smiles Rob Schneider, who wrote the script with Tom Brady. "The Animal" is the first produced screenplay for Brady, who has written and produced television shows such as "The Simpsons" and "Home Improvement." He first hooked up with Schneider while executive producing "Men Behaving Badly" for NBC, and the two quickly began hatching movie ideas.

Writing chores

In addition to his writing chores, Schneider also stars as nerd-turned-animal Marvin Mange. "I feel like everything I've ever learned—from being a stand-up to my days on "Saturday Night Live" and working with Adam Sandler on his movies—has all been put into this film. Working with Sandler was great on "Deuce," so we decided to have another go. This time, instead of different gigolo customers, we had different animal parts.

"This is guy trying to retain his humanity, but he's got these animal organs that are going to win."

Schneider who co-wrote and starred in "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo" and played the lead in two seasons of the television sitcom "Men Behaving Badly," credits his family for his foray into comedy. "We didn't have music albums, we had comedy albums." he says.

"We'd only go to see comedy movies. I loved "Blazing Saddles." I loved Peter Sellers, who was an amazing physical comedian. "Monty Python," the high-water mark of comedy in the 20th century, was a big influence on me."

Pushing the boundaries

"Rob is amazing," says director Luke Greenfield. "Rob has pushed all physical and mental boundaries in this movie. If you just put a camera on him anywhere, anytime, it's going to be funny. Just follow him around and you'll have a movie! I was pretty lucky to work with Rob on my first feature." about a guy trying not to be an animal, and he's losing the battle," Schneider continues.

One of Greenfield's biggest problems on the set was trying to keep from laughing. "Rob's scene with the goat was hysterical. Everyone had to turn away because it was so hard not to laugh," he smiles. "There was a scene where Dr. Wilder put a cone on Rob's head. Michael Caton, the actor who plays Wilder, turned his back and started laughing while Rob had to deal with the scene. We did one scene with Rob and Colleen that I had to walk away from," he continues. "I couldn't watch the rest of the take. Someone else called 'cut.'"

"Everybody went a little animal on this movie," concludes Schneider, "including me. It's nutty, but I guess no matter what you are—how much animal you are, or how little animal you are—you accept each other. There's a lot of love in this movie. I want people to feel good watching it and have a good time."

SCHNEIDER. His life is going to be a zoo.

'Next Wave' on National Geographic Channel

NATIONAL Geographic Channel keeps you warm with exciting stories and extraordinary adventures during the rainy season in the new weekly program "Next Wave," which airs every Wednesday at 9 p.m., beginning July 25 and ends on Oct. 17, 2001.

Surfers and scientists

Climb onboard the Indies Trader and sail the high seas with Australian adventure scientists Jo Rush and Matt Tomaszewski as they work with surfers and scientists alike to help save dying beaches.

Along the way, special guests join them as they dive in mysterious waters, encounter ancient tribes and discover native plants all in an effort to better understand and save the seas they love.

Join Matt and Jo on a scorching dive into boiling' poisonous, underwater vents—Papua New Guinea hot springs that could be deadly in Episode 1 of "Next Wave," "Poison Vents" on Wednesday, July 25 at 9 p.m.

Next, the two hosts climb into active volcanoes in Rabaul, Papua New Guinea—one of the most unstable volcanic land masses in the world in Episode 2 of "Next Wave," "Lava Lover" on Wednesday, Aug. 1 at 9 p.m.

This time, guest biologist Jane Mogina joins Matt and Jo as they rush to find a natural remedy for a mysterious growing rash that has stricken Matt in Episode 3 of "Next Wave," "The Rash" on Wednesday, Aug. 8 at 9 p.m.

Hermaphrodite priests

Matt and Jo spend a day with Sharyn Graham and the mysterious hermaphrodite priests of Southern Sulawesi in Episode 4 of "Next Wave," "Sex and Priests" on Wednesday, Aug. 15 at 9 p.m.

Then, modern-day pirates are exposed when they come across an abandoned boat with a shocking cargo off the coast of Papua New Guinea in Episode 5 of "Next Wave," "Fish Pirates" on Wednesday, Aug. 22 at 9 p.m.

This time, the two search for the elusive Tarsier, one of the world's smallest primates, deep in the Bantimurung reserve in Southern Sulawesi in Episode 6, "Bamboo Ghosts" on Wednesday, Aug. 29 at 9 p.m.

Matt and Jo go diving off the coast of Southern Sulawesi to uncover an unlikely cancer killer in Episode 7, "The Big Squish" on Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 9 p.m.

Next, they set off with Captain Martin to find a string of doomed islands which are being sucked down into the sea off Sumatra in Episode 8, "Water Pressure" on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 9 p.m.

Tribal tattooing

Deep in the jungle off Sumatra in Indonesia, they learn about traditional tribal tattooing—and attend a tattooing ceremony in Episode 9, "Skin Deep" on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 9 p.m.

The two hosts travel to a remote jungle island in the Mentawais to visit New Yorker Lisa Paciulli—a fiercely determined woman who has single-handedly saved a forest in Episode 10, "Forest Woman" on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 9 p.m.

Then they navigate dangerous waters in the Indies Trader as they join Captain Martin to check out the explosive fishing war in the Komodo National Park in Episode 11, "Rock n' Coral" on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 9 p.m.

This time, the two cruise the Indies Trader up the South, West Coast of Myanmar (Burma), searching for the last of the Sea Gypsies—the Mokens in Episode 12, "Last of the Mokens" on Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 9 p.m.

As one of the hosts turns 30, Matt and Jo turn to Buddhism to discover whether its secrets could help save our planet in Episode 13 of "Next Wave," "Colour of Zen" on Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 9 p.m.

Mechanics

1. Simply answer the two (2) questions written on the coupon. Detach the coupon and attach an empty carton pack of Colgate The Lost Empire Toothbrush.
2. Write your name, address, telephone number, and affix signature on the raffle coupon, enclose in a white envelope and mail it to:
   Colgate The Lost Empire Toothbrush Raffle
   Colgate-Palmolive Philippines
   1049 Jose Rizal Avenue, Makati City
3. Raffle will be on September 7, 2001 at 2 PM at Colgate-Palmolive Philippines to be duly witnessed by a DTI Representative.
4. Only entries received on or before August 31, 2001, 5 PM, will be included in the draw.
5. A total of 150 Colgate gift packs worth P2,000 each will be given away to the lucky winners. A participant can win only once.
6. Winners will be notified by telegram, and by registered mail.
7. Redemption of prizes shall be within 60 days from date of letter of notice. Prizes may be claimed at Colgate-Palmolive Philippines, 1049 J. Rizal Avenue., Makati. Prizes of provincial winners shall be sent through courier.
8. Prizes not claimed within 60 days shall be forfeited with prior approval of the DTI-NCR.
9. Prize is not convertible to cash.
10. Promo duration is from July 22, 2001 to August 31, 2001.
11. Employees of Colgate-Palmolive Philippines and of its advertising agencies, suppliers and distributors, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

Questions:

1. Who is your favorite character from the movie?
   _____
2. What brand of toothbrush should you use to make brushing fun?
   _____

NAME: _____
TEL. NO. _____
ADDRESS: _____
SIGNATURE: _____

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2244 Series of 2001

Raymond and Lara profess undying love for each other

BY RICKY T. GALLARDO

EXACTLY seven days from now, actors Raymond Bagatsing and Lara Fabregas will "consecrate" their hearts to each other in a special Ananda Marga wedding ceremony in Tagaytay. Actually, they started playing their roles as husband and wife as early as June 24 when they got married in civil rites at the Las Piñas municipal hall. This, after a 20-day romance that started on the eve before Fabregas turned 26.

If it were a storyline for a movie script, their love affair would read like this:

Mutual friend

Raymond attended Lara's birthday celebration last year at the Republic of Malate upon the prodding of mutual friend. At their first meeting, he was smitten, but didn't give it much thought since his heart was throbbing for somebody else at that time. Lara always had a high regard for him, he being one of her favorite actors and her No. 1 choice when she was asked to name her list of sexy male celebrities.

No sparks flew, but one year later, our male lead was already unattached, and one phone call in the early days of June sparked the fire. The conversation went on for hours and they discovered that they had so much in common.

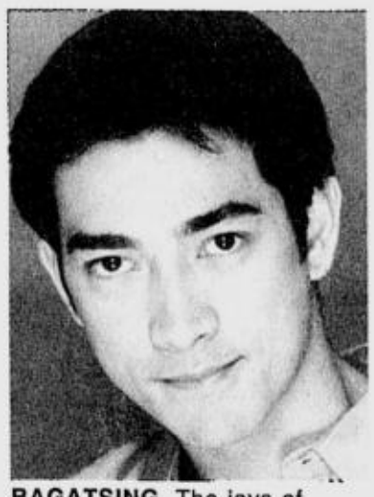
They agreed to meet the following night (June 6) to watch a ballet performance at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. That night never ended.

The two became inseparable after the performance, got so engrossed with each other, and discovered that there was, indeed, magic between them.

Overwhelmed

The female lead was so overwhelmed by the flow of events that she had forgotten that it was already her birthday (June 7), exactly one year after they first met.

The next two weeks passed with more discoveries and connections. Sometime between midnight and dawn after June's fourth weekend, he asked her to marry him, and she answered, right away, in the affirmative.



BAGATSING. The joys of stillness.

FABREGAS. No fear, only faith.

Fabregas admits feeling scared, since there's nothing absolute and definite in human existence. "We don't have any assurances that if we get married, two months from now or two years from now, we're going to stay together." But we reminded her not to be afraid, because they say that fear is the opposite of love.

Faith

Fabregas smiles, then continues, "But I have so much faith in him and in what we have for each other and I guess you're right, there should be no fear, only faith . . ."

". . . And love, pure love," quickly adds Bagatsing, who's turning 30 in September and who has embraced the practices and beliefs of the Ananda Marga way of life.

For some time now, we were aware that Bagatsing recharged his energies through meditation. It's his way of detoxifying whatever impurities the outside world has fed his thoughts and body.

Now Fabregas has also discovered the joys of stillness.

"It's a slow process for me" she shares.

For a start, they sometimes refer to each other in their given Hindu names: Laghema for Fabregas, which means possessing a mind so small it can jump into other people's thoughts. Bagatsing is Rama Kanta (pronounced ramakant), which means godly fortune.

Bagatsing reiterates that he's not forcing anything on her, not even his spirituality. "I want her to discover things on her own. I have so much trust and respect for her, I do not plan to change who she feels she is."

Dream

Bagatsing is open to his wife's pursuing a career in New York City. "It's her dream, so I will in no way be a hindrance to that. For me, true love knows no distance."

And Fabregas has come to accept that her husband's work schedule during the week goes against hers, so the only time they can be together is during weekends.

They see a lot of each other, though, since they are cast in the local staging of Jean Anouilh's "The Lark," which is running this weekend at the GSIS Theatre.

Their schedules are full but they are making sure that their forthcoming wedding will be something unforgettable. "It will be very private, an event which we'd like to share with the special people in our lives," says Fabregas.

AM/FM

In syndication: The Dave Koz Show

BY RITO P. ASILO

PEOPLE partial to jazz regularly tune to either Crossover 105.1, Joey 92.3 or dwCT 88.3 FM on their radio. There are a couple more of these stations which specialize in Smooth Jazz, a type of jazz characterized by a polished sound that stems from an outgrowth of fusion.

Rhythms

Instead of improvisation which characterizes the more cerebral types of jazz music like Dave Brubeck's or Wynton Marsalis,' this type relies more on rhythms and grooves, with layers of synthesizers, light-funk bass and saxophones.

Recently, we received e-mails prodding us to tune in to, and write about, their favorite jazz programs.

One such request came from Dr. Belinda Dimailig, who wrote us how the music and concept programs of CT Lite relax her after a long, hard day at the hospital, where she serves as chief resident.

She was talking about "The Dave Koz Show," which is a radio program syndicated from Monterey, California. If you are a jazz junkie, you can't not know who Dave Koz is.

Dave, whose music sounds like a reworked David Sanborn (who is the most influential saxophonist on pop, R&B and crossover jazz in the past 20 years), is the latest contender for the instrumental pop sax throne, after the critically reviled Kenny G.

Resemblance

But he has more things going for himself other than his eerie resemblance to pop vocalist Richard Marx. He won "Smooth Jazz Artist of the Year" at the Second Annual Oasis Smooth Jazz Awards last year, and romped home with Best Male Artist, CD of the Year (for "The Dance") and Best Saxophonist awards. The great news is that the album, is available in most of the major record bars in the Philippines.

What's especially interesting about Koz's show is that it features very short interviews with his fellow jazz artists, like his collaborator on "The Dance," top smooth jazz guitarist Jonathan Butler;

DAVID Benoit (left) guests on Koz's radio program.

the versatile acoustic and electric bassist Brian Bromberg; Jeff Lorber, whose sound brings together the elements of funk, R&B, rock and electric jazz; Pinoy favorite, Jim Brickman; David Benoit, whose classics like "Land of the Loving" and "Take A Look Inside My Heart" remain top jazz staples in the Philippines; blue-eyed soul artist Michael McDonald; and Olympic gold medalist-turned-jazz bassist Wayman Tisdale!

Dave Koz came out of nowhere after his self-titled 1990 debut was released and made it into Billboard's contemporary jazz charts and stayed there for several weeks. While his music is as radio-friendly as Kenny G's, the comparison stops there. If critics hate the music of Kenny, they embrace Dave's.

Their general verdict: "He has more fire and intensity!" Their aversion to Kenny G is perplexing, but not entirely surprising. We used to swoon over "Songbird," but these days, the song just gives us goosebumps all over.

Distinctive

Michael McDonald's husky and soulful baritone is one of the most distinctive and popular voices to emerge from the laid-back California pop-rock scene.

Who can forget the definitive rock-jazz fusion of "What A Fool Believes," his classic with the Doobie Brothers? Or his duets with Patti LaBelle (the No. 1 single, "On My Own"), Aretha Franklin ("Ever-changing Times") and James Ingram ("Yah Mo Be There")? And his solo hits, like "I Gotta Try" and "Sweet Freedom," from the Billy Crystal-Gregory Hines movie, "Running Scared?"

McDonald found the middle ground between blue-eyed soul and smooth soft rock, a sound that made him a star.

Brian Bromberg is one of the few bassists to master the tapping technique made famous by Stanley Jordan, sometimes sounding like three bassists at once during his often-thunderous solos.

He started playing the clubs, which don't allow minors, at age 12. In between numbers, Brian would be whisked out of the club to wait for the next set!

He is one of the most underrated bassists in jazz. He has worked alongside luminaries like Stan Getz, Dizzy Gillespie, Lee Ritenour, Dave Grusin and Freddie Hubbard.

Jeff Lorber earned a Grammy nomination for his hit, "Pacific Coast Highway," and topped the jazz charts with his No. 1 album, "Kickin' It."

Forte

While most athletes who branched out into the music business found rap music to be their forte, Wayman Tisdale shifted to contemporary jazz with his 1995 hit debut, "Power Forward."

A top bassist, Tisdale, as a child, was always a part of his church choir and was told he "kept hitting the wrong notes" and was advised to shut up every so often.

In his early teens, he went through a growth spurt and shot to 6'9", towering over the other kids in high school, so he started to play basketball. He won a 1984 Olympic gold medal as part of the US Dream Team in basketball. But he never stopped playing bass!

Unlike other jazz-inspired radio programs, this one is doubly notable because the listener gets snippets of information on his favorite jazz artists. Koz pops questions like "What's in your CD player?" and David Benoit or Craig Tsekiso drops the names of Rick Vaughn or Boney James.

Another portion of the show, "Audio Koz Question," features a strain of music while listeners are asked which artist is being played on-air. On this particular show, it was the Rippingtons featuring Russ Freeman.

At a time when the music scene is dominated by boy bands and hiphop, information on these artists is welcome because news items about jazz musicians and vocalists are few and far between. And the music isn't so bad either.

Advice

Speaking of syndicated shows, we chanced upon a Cebuano program a couple of weeks ago, aired over dwSS ("Radyo Bisaya sa Metro Manila") 1494 kHz on the AM channel from 9 to 10 a.m. The program, "Dear Vanessa," is actually a popular afternoon show in Cebu, which features stories of letter-senders asking for advice, and a short dramatization of some of those stories.

One letter-sender asked what surgical operation she could undergo to widen her chinky eyes. Another one was concerned about her proclivity to watch people in sexually compromising situations or watch men urinate, and sought advice for her voyeuristic tendencies. (This one was advised to undergo an "inner healing" of bad habits, whatever that meant.)

The main feature, however, was about a couple who couldn't have children. The guy was convinced it was the wife who had a problem, so he told her that, if she did have a problem, he would still love her but, "Would it be okay with you if I get a woman pregnant and buy the child from her?"

However, it turned out that he was the one who had the problem ("low sperm count"). Later, his wife had an affair with an officemate and got herself pregnant—and he couldn't deal with it! He became so jealous and paranoid that he would get crazy just hearing his wife whisper on the phone.

Part of his dilemma was whether to adopt the child his wife was carrying for another man, or not. Tough luck for a tough guy—and a fateful comeuppance, if you ask us!

Viewers cite their most memorable movies

BY NOELANI TORRE

FILIPINOS are great devotees of movies. We devour them, and our voracious appetites only remain satisfied until the next Wednesday comes along and those movies we've been hearing so much about are finally showing.

And if we can't make it to the cinemas, there's HBO, Cinemax, Star Movies and Hallmark on cable television. And if we don't like what's on cable, why, haven't you heard of laser discs, VHS and VCDs? (It was Betamax when we were younger.) Whatever the mode or venue, we will go to great lengths for our regular dose of cinema.

Most of us have been watching movies "since forever." It would be quite impossible to even guess how many we have watched in the course of our lives. Yet from the hundreds of films that have begun and ended before our eyes, our minds (with prompting from our hearts) latch on to a select few and store them in our memory.

What makes a movie worthy of remembrance? We asked several people which films were most memorable for them, and their choices, as well as their reasons, are quite reveling:

Turning point

"'Flowers for Algernon.' After I watched it, my taste in movies shifted from the shallow to the more in-depth kind. It marked a turning point and that's why it's the one movie I'll never forget.

"I was hooked by the story, which was a bit sci-fi but didn't concentrate on that aspect. It's about this guy whose IQ is way below average, but then some scientists experiment on him and he gets smarter and smarter, until he becomes a genius.

"It changed everything—how he looked at other people, how he looked at himself. *Tumaas nga ang IQ niya, pero hindi naman siya masaya.* He became very selfish when before he was very giving.

"At first you feel good for him, you think that getting smart will solve his problems, but it doesn't. And you start to wonder whether he was better off stupid, and then it does happen, he regresses.

"And now you don't know what to think. It's about things found and lost—love, intelligence, peace. It touched me deeply, mind and heart."—*Lara Fernandez, Cebu City*

Theories

"The Matrix' sparked my philosophical interest. It had me really thinking hard. It presented a lot of theories about life, the world, reality, our roles in the universe. I keep going back to their concept of bending reality to what one sees fit, of breaking the rules. What if I can will it so that I can also bend spoons and walk sideways on walls?

"I liked its unique view of the future, which sets it apart from the usual 'streamlined gizmos' predictions of the future in other movies. The bullet scene is also unforgettable and, of course, Carrie Anne Moss is in it. I'll remember any film of hers."—*Hathem Asthur Bahjin, Zamboanga City*

Love at first sight

"'An Affair to Remember.' It's the story, actually, an unlikely way to find love. It convinced me that it is possible to fall in love at first sight. What's so good about it is that it's so sincere: even if he didn't see her on top of the Empire State building, his love still endured. It's memorable because I hope to find a love like that. Yeah, I know, I'm so mushy!"—*Vanessa Quiling, Cebu City*

Fascinating

"'The Truman Show.' The main idea of the movie itself is fascinating, mind-boggling. It deals with the question of existence—the realization that the life you're living turns out to be just make-believe.

"It made me think, what if it's same with us? *Paano kung tayo din pala, ginagago lang din ng mga tao?* Imagine, your whole life is scripted!

"The director in the movie is sort of like God and I couldn't stop thinking

VIEWERS/p.D5

YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM JULY 21 - JULY 27

CH 2	CH 4	CH 5	CH 7	CH 9	CH 13	CH 23	CH 29	CH 31
5:30 Magandang Gabi, Bayan 7:00 Arriba, Arriba 8:30 Da Body en Da Guard 9:30 Pinoy Exposed 10:00 Keep on Dancing 11:00 'F' 11:30 Sports Unlimited 12:00 The Weekend News	6:00 Auto Review 6:30 Uncut 7:00 Saturday Primetime Special 9:00 The Bodyguards 10:00 Explore with Mike 11:00 National Network News 11:30 Auto Focus	6:00 Vanpires 6:30 Sailormoon Super S 7:00 Tropang Trumpo 8:00 Ispup 9:00 Saturday Night Specials *Party in the Park 2000* 11:00 Diagnosis Murder	5:30 Brigada Siete 7:00 Idol Ko Si Kap 8:00 Kakabakaba 9:00 GMA's BEST *Once Upon A Time In China 3* 11:00 Master Showman Presents 12:30 GMA Network News 1:00 The 700 Club	6:00 To Be Announced 7:00 Invisible Man 8:00 Martial Law 9:00 Saturday Night Playhouse *The Corrs Live at Alberta Hall* 11:00 Business Class	7:00 Viva Premiere Night *Astig* 8:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:00 Now Showing *Jurrasic Park 2* *The Lost World*	6:00 Born Free 7:00 Lassie 7:30 Seventh Heaven 8:30 Gilmore Girls 9:30 Studio 23 Presents 12:00 MYX	3:00 Q Show Case 7:00 Xclusive Cinema Special 9:00 Oras ng Katotohanan 9:30 Armor of God 10:00 Oh Tokyo 11:00 Pinoy Wrestling	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El Coming Attractions 7:00 Celebrity Profile 8:00 El True Hollywood Story *Jay North-Dennis The Menace* 9:00 El Special 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut *Jodie Foster* 11:30 Extreme Close Up *Michael J. Fox* 12:00 El Coming Attractions
5:30 Knowledge Power 6:00 Sharon 7:00 Wansapanataym 8:30 Eto na ang Susunod na Kabanata 9:30 ABS-CBN Presents 11:30 The Weekend News	3:00 MBA 8:00 Street Legal 9:00 Sunday's Big Showdown 11:00 National Network News 11:30 Business & Leisure	6:00 Sinbad the Sailor 6:30 Guyferd 7:00 Sing-Galing 8:00 Wow Mali! 9:00 Eazy Dancing 10:00 Sunday Night Movies *Rats* 12:00 Sentinel	5:30 Partners Mel and Jay 7:00 Bilog's World 7:30 GMA Telesine 9:30 Sunday Night Box Office *Lethal Weapon 3* 11:30 Che-Che Lazaro Presents 12:00 GMA Network News 12:30 Little Night of Music	6:00 Shadow Raiders 6:30 Crash Zone 7:00 Ripley's Believe It or Not 8:00 Just Kidding 8:30 Kids Say the Darndest Thing 9:00 Sunday's Big Event *The Juror* 11:00 Sunday Report	5:00 PBA 2001 All Star Game 9:00 Sinemaks *Di Na Naluto* 11:00 Viva Music Channel 11:30 El Shaddai	6:00 Starship Troopers 6:30 Rugrats 7:00 Batman Beyond 7:30 Futurama 8:00 Bette 8:30 Spin City 9:00 Will & Grace 9:30 Jack & Jill 10:30 Digital Tour 11:00 Sunday Night Movies	5:00 Quartermaster Window Shop 7:00 Sunday Mini-Series 8:00 Oh Tokyo 9:00 Sunday Night Movies 11:00 Bikini Open	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El Coming Attractions 7:00 El Special *Natalie Wood* 9:00 El Special *Hollywood Kids* 10:00 Hot Young Hollywood 11:00 The Best of 60 minutes 12:00 El Coming Attractions
6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Kaya ni Mister, Kaya ni Misis 9:30 Your Honor 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Correspondents 12:30 Martin Late@Nite	5:00 Metro TV 6:00 Value Vision 7:00 Sigaw 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Philippine Open	6:00 F 6:30 Mahha Go Go Go 7:00 Guni-Guni 8:00 The Big Night *Fatman and Little Boy* 10:00 The Big News 10:30 High Tide 11:30 The Big News (Replay)	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 DragonballZ 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Pinoy Blockbusters 10:15 Kiss Muna 11:00 Front Page 11:30 I-Witness	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Mi Querida Isabel 6:30 Siempre Te Amare 7:00 To Be Annouced 7:30 Sparks 8:00 World's Most Amazing Videos 9:00 The X-Files 10:00 Primetime Ballta 10:30 NYPD Blue	6:30 Viva Proudly Presents *Mahal Kita, Alam Mo Ba?* 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 WNBA 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	6:00 MYX 7:00 I Dream of Jeannie 7:30 The Nanny 8:00 Dawson's Creek 9:00 Charmed 10:00 News Central 10:30 Points of View 11:30 Grapevine 12:00 MYX	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 In Focus *Fantasy Adventures* 8:00 Mysteries & Scandals 8:30 Search Party 9:00 Fashion Emergency 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 60 Minutes 11:00 Wild on *Spain* 12:00 Talk Soup
6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Oka Tokat 9:30 Regal Presents 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Mission X 12:30 Martin Late@Nite	5:00 Best of Sydney Olympics 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Philippine Open	6:00 Dragon League 6:30 2 Years Vacation w/ Dinosaurs 7:00 ABC Action Theater *One Down Two to Go* 9:00 That '70s Show 9:30 Life with Roger 10:00 The Big News 10:30 FX The Series 11:30 The Big News (Replay)	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 Dragonball Z 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Kool Ka Lang 10:15 Kasangga 11:00 Front Page 11:30 The Probe Team	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Mi Querida Isabel 6:30 Siempre Te Amare 7:00 To Be Annouced 7:30 Stark Raving Mad 8:00 Ally McBeal 9:00 The Practice 10:00 Primetime Balita 10:30 Pretender 11:30 Ngayon Na Pinoy	6:30 Viva Action Cinema *Mano-Mano* 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 Jurassic Park 3 *The Making* 10:00 Moulin Rouge *The Making* 10:30 Viva Music Channel 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	6:00 MYX 7:00 The Three Stooges 7:30 Baywatch 8:30 Angel 9:30 Mad About You 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 Zine 12:00 MYX	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 Celebrity Profile 8:00 El True Hollywood Story 9:00 Celebrity Homes 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut *Scott Wolf* 11:30 Extreme Close Up 12:00 Talk Soup
6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Pwedeng-Pwede 9:30 Kabalikat 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Isyu 101 12:30 Martin Late@Nite	4:00 MBA 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 The Working President 11:00 Diyos At Bayan	6:00 Pygmalio 6:30 Time Quest 7:00 Planet X 7:30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch 8:00 Chicago Sons 8:30 Friends 9:00 E.R. 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Phils.' Most Wanted 11:30 Police Academy	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 DragonBall Z 7:30 Ikaw Lnag Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Beh Bote Nga 10:15 Larawan 11:00 Front Page 11:30 Imbestigador	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Mi Querida Isabel 6:30 Siempre Te Amare 7:00 To Be Annouced 7:30 Malcolm in the Middle 8:00 Roswell 9:00 Bully the Vampire Slayer 10:00 Primetime Balita 10:30 Wrestling 11:30 Kasangga Mo Ay Langit	5:00 PBA Game 1 7:30 PBA Game 2 10:00 Blow By Blow 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	7:00 Twilight Zone 7:30 Survivor 2 8:30 When Hidden Camera Attacks 9:00 Gameplan 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 The Explorer 12:00 MYX	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 In Focus *Paparazzi* 8:00 Mysteries & Scandals 8:30 Search Party 9:00 Fashion Emergency 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On *Riviera '99* 12:00 Talk Soup
6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Home Along da Riles 9:30 Maalaala Mo Kaya 11:00 Headlines 11:30 Pipol 12:30 Martin Late@Nite	4:00 Concert At The Park 5:30 Best of Sydney Olympics 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Explore With Mike 11:00 Paco Park Presents	6:00 Shufato 6:30 Fancy Lala 7:00 Guinness World Records 8:00 Soldier of Fortune 9:00 Burning Zone 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Strangers 11:00 New York Undercover 12:00 The Big News (Replay)	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 Dragonball Z 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Daddy Di Do Du 10:15 Sinerama 11:00 Front Page 11:30 Debate with Mare at Pare	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Mi Querida Isabel 6:30 Siempre Te Amare 7:00 To Be Annouced 7:30 Amazing People 8:00 Felicity 9:00 Once and Again 10:00 Primetime Balita 10:30 The Basketball Show 11:30 Police Hour	6:30 TeleViva Specials *Ano Ang Hugis Ng Kahapon?* 8:30 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:30 Gags Must Be Crazy 10:30 Jurassic Park 3 *The Making* 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Good Take	6:00 MYX 7:00 The Green Hornet 7:30 Cineplex 23 9:30 Guide to Urban Living 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:30 Travel Time 12:00 MYX	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:00 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 Celebrity Profile *Allysa Mirano* 8:00 El True Hollywood Story 9:00 Celebrity Homes 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Uncut *Matt Le Blanc* 11:30 Extreme Close *Helen Hunt* 12:00 Talk Soup
6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Pangako sa 'Yo 7:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 8:00 Sa Puso Ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Digimon 9:00 Star Cinema Presents 11:00 Headlines 11:30 True Crime 12:30 Martin Late@Nite	4:00 MBA 8:00 Tele-Dyaryo 10:00 Pulsong Masa 11:00 Family ROsary Crusade	6:00 Lazenca 6:30 Restol 7:00 Top of the Pops 7:30 By Request 8:00 Touched By an Angel 9:00 Working 9:30 Normal Ohio 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Friday Box Office	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Lupin III 7:00 DragonBall Z 7:30 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:00 Monica Brava 8:30 Pokemon 9:00 Bubble Gang 10:15 GMA Love Stories 11:00 Front Page	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Mi Querida Isabel 6:30 Siempre Te Amare 7:00 To Be Annouced 7:30 Holding the Baby 8:00 Dharma & Greg 8:30 Nikki 9:00 City of Angels 10:00 Primetime Balita 10:30 TV Greats on Friday	5:00 PBA Game 1 7:30 PBA Game 2 10:00 Let's Play Pool 11:00 Ronda Trese 11:30 Last Fool Show	6:30 MYX 7:00 Batman 7:30 Exposed 8:30 West Wing 9:30 Murphy Brown 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah 11:15 Nightman 12:00 MYX	4:30 Quartermaster 6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan (Live)	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 El News Daily 7:00 In Focus 8:00 Mysteries & Scandals 8:30 Search Party 9:00 Fashion Emergency 9:30 El News Daily 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On *Springbreak 2001* 12:00 Talk Soup

Zhang Ziyi lights up international film screens

BY NESTOR U. TORRE

AFTER Jackie Chan, Chow Yun-Fat, Michelle Yeoh, Jet Li, Lucy Liu, Joan Chen and Gong Li, the next Chinese performer to "go Hollywood" is Zhang Ziyi, the young star of such international acclaimed pictures as Ang Lee's "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and Zhang Yimou's "The Road Home."

First Hollywood film

The young star's first Hollywood film is "Rush Hour, 2," which stars Chan and comedian Chris Tucker. The action-comedy flick isn't as prestigious as "Crouching Tiger . . .," but it's expected to be a hit, so the 22-year-old actress should get noticed by other American producers who may offer her more substantial film projects in film seasons to come.

The advance word on Zhang Ziyi is better than most. "Crouching Tiger . . ." gave her quite an introductory showcase, contrasting her fragile beauty with the feats of martial-arts prowess that she was made to execute, like fighting as though she were flying on top of a bamboo grove.

At first, viewers thought that the movie's incredible fighting scenes were merely the result of a lot of cinematic trickery and special effects. But we now know that Zhang was specially chosen for her swordswoman role in the film because she had trained for 10 years in dancing and gymnastics.

Dexterity

Zhang's physical training and dexterity made her a natural for her character's "death-defying" martial arts routines in Ang Lee's acclaimed film, which has done well not just

ZHANG Ziyi co-stars with Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker in "Rush Hour, 2."

with critics but also with the viewing public. The film made more in its US release ($130M) than any foreign movie and burnished Chow Yun-Fat's reputation as an international star.

Zhang also benefited greatly from the film's success and global exposure. Since she was the production's youngest star, she brightened the movie screen with her unique combination of youth, competence and obvious charisma.

Bankable

No wonder the "Rush Hour, 2" people got excited about her. Jackie Chan may be a bankable action-comedy star in Hollywood, but now that he's in his 40s, he needs younger talents to enliven his starrers. Zhang, with her youthful beauty and martial arts prowess, is precisely the exciting new talent Chan needs to prevent his new movie from looking like a rehash of the first "Rush Hour" film.

What is keeping Zhang from accepting other US films is her inability to speak English. But, if she makes learning the language a top priority, she should be able to do English-language movies in less than one year. After that, watch her fly higher than the top of bamboo groves, all the way up to that HOLLYWOOD sign in the hills of Los Angeles!

Confidence

With her talent, beauty, youth and good track record, Zhang Ziyi can do almost anything that she sets her sights on. Adding immeasurably to her confidence is the fact that she has been tapped by the best Asian directors in the film world to play important roles in their most prestigious productions.

Her first film, "The Road Home," was megged by the acclaimed Zhang Yimou, who in the past made dramatic stars and luminous screen sensations of the likes of Gong Li and Joan Chen.

As for Ang Lee, "Crouching Tiger . . ." has taken him all the way to the top of the international directing world, and practically anything he touches these days turns to cinematic gold.

Zhang Ziyi has attracted the avid interest of another much-admired Chinese director, Tsui Hark, who has been reaping his share of international acclaim. Hark has given Zhang a lead role in his new film, "Zu."

Exceptional

Her being mentored by these three outstanding directors had helped Zhang come up with screen performances so exceptional that she has begun winning awards.

In the States, she was named Best Supporting Actress at the Independent Spirit Awards, and in Hong Kong, she received a similar honor at the Golden Cercis Awards. She was also cited as Most Promising Female Newcomer by the Chicago Film Critics Association—exceptional "official" praise and endorsement for one so young!

Viewers cite their most memorable movies

(From page D4)

about the concept of God as a director. I filled up a lot of pages in my journal about that. In fact, I'm still thinking about it. It's not something you would expect from Jim Carrey, *di ba*?—*Lynelle Noble, Pangasinan*

Visually gorgeous

"'What Dreams May Come,' is an unforgettable movie. I don't think anyone has made a movie as visually gorgeous as this. The rich, vivid colors with the film's mixture of melancholy and happiness brings me to believe in Dante Alighieri's view of hell, heaven and purgatory. It basically portrays these concepts as solid and tangible things that can be perceived in this world. I lost myself in that movie."—*Darwin Ranolayan, Quezon City*

Consequence

"'Frequency.' It's the only movie that made me cry. It's a movie anyone can relate to because we all have parents and there's

JIM Carrey in "The Truman Show."

always this fear that we might lose them. In the movie, the protagonist loses his father and then something happens that gives him the chance to have him back—but then, what if he loses his mother as a consequence? It shows how any single, simple thing you do can affect your whole life.

"And what if that would happen to you? What if you were given the same opportunity that he was given? It's very thought-provoking and intensely emotional at the same time. The love that parents give to their children and the love that children give in return—they showed this and it was really touching. I also liked the aurora borealis touch."—*Diana Baylon, Kalibo Aklan*

Cinematography

"'Bram Stoker's Dracula,' This was directed by Francis Ford Coppola, a very talented director. The main thing that struck me was the cinematography. It was the way they used colors, those that were dark and intense, and that were important to the film as a whole.

"There was one scene where the only hue they used was dark blue. It was chilling. And there was this shot I can't forget where a wolf's eye transformed into the moon. The movie is unique and unconventional and that's what makes it memorable!"—*Mark Baogbog, Quezon City*

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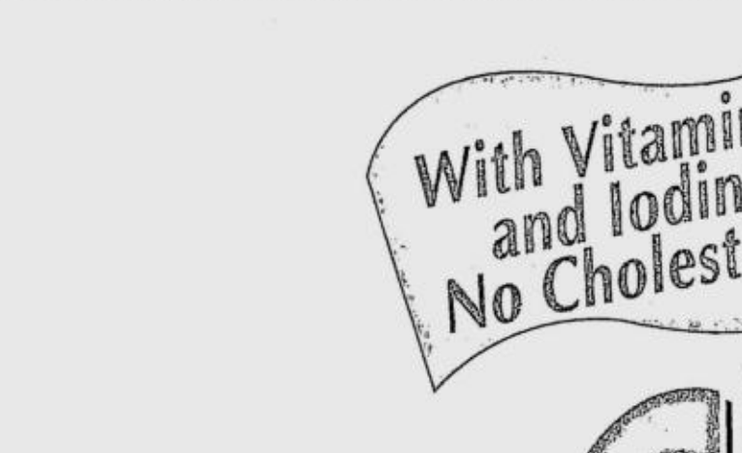

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Laugh a lot with Rey Kilay, singer and comedian

BY MONA GONZALEZ

NO, his real name is not Rey Kilay—it is actually Rey Anthony Francisco. He got his monicker from coworkers when he was a neophyte scriptwriter at ABS-CBN. "I admired Madonna ever since I was a child, and I shaped my eyebrows so they'd be like hers," Rey explains.

Today, Rey is by no means as big as Madonna, but he is certainly carving out a name for himself on the local scene. At The Library on M. Adriatico st., where Rey performs from Tuesday to Sunday, he has a knack for bringing the house down.

Recognition

He is also getting some recognition as a regular player in two television shows, "Love Ko Si Babes" and "Pangako Sa Iyo." In the latter, he's cast as the best friend and neighbor of Kristine Hermosa.

"KILAY" may be funny, but he takes his shows seriously.

At The Library, Rey performs with three other comedian/singers, namely Rod, Jessie and Russell. After having watched their show, my husband and I are wont to admit that they are a formidable team.

The Library is known as a sing-along club, but Rey, Rod, Jessie and Russell have a knack for making the audience roar with laughter—just by being themselves. They also spice up their gags with their singing.

Gesture

Rey has this wonderful knack for singing beautifully (he did a fantastic rendition of Toni Braxton's "You Mean the World to Me")—and then, just when you're getting carried away with his song, he'll make a movement or gesture that will force you to laugh . . . and laugh!

It is not so much the punchline as the way the simplest lines and gestures are said and done. It has a way of carrying you away, forcing you to leave all your cares behind. Time spent at The Library can, in this sense, be therapy.

Rey may be funny, but he takes his shows seriously. To protect his voice (since he performs from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.), he sleeps eight hours a day and takes Vitamin C. To maintain his stamina at night, there's Red Bull.

"I've been doing this for five years, and you've got to find ways to make it different each day," Rey says. "So I research new spiels and gimmicks. And I shop a lot. I buy clothes three times a week. I have four cabinets of clothes, and 47 pairs of shoes!"

But for Rey, expensive is not always best. He has his share of Italian shoes, but he also buys at the *tiangge*. And while he was not born to wealth, he's accumulated quite a bit on his own.

Nieces

"I own my own car, and I'm renting a condo unit in Wack Wack," Rey says. He also sends two nieces to school, and helps support his parents.

"This means a lot to me," Rey says. "My family didn't think I'd accomplish anything with my life, because I didn't finish college (he was an undergrad pursuing a course as a hospital therapist)." It turned out, in his family, he now earns the most. Not bad for a 26-year-old Manila boy (his parents are from Iloilo).

We have no doubt that Rey has what it takes to make it big. Aside from his genuine talent, he's got a charismatic personality to boot.

Winning edge

His upbeat manner is truly winning, and in a business like show biz, where everyone is bright and beautiful, it can give you the winning edge in making you stand out.

During his show, Rey talks to the guests and pokes fun at them every now and then. Of someone evidently well-heeled he asks, "Where do you live?" When the guest replies, "Ayala Alabang" Rey responds, "Guardhouse?"

Then he fusses over a 12-year-old boy in the audience. A co-performer gestures to Rey and says to the boy, "He's your fairy godmother." Rey adds, "I'm your future self."

He tells us, "When you talk to the audience, you must be careful not to offend them. *Nagti-timpla ako ng tao*, I try to analyze them and I try not to go too far. Also, I don't tell any green jokes."

Rey can't analyze what Filipino comedy needs, nor make any observations about what our taste in comedy says about ourselves. But he can certainly make you laugh!

Moviegoing is still the country's top entertainment pastime

BY JOCELYN VALLE

THE PHILIPPINES may be experiencing a lot of difficulties, but thankfully, it hasn't made it to Newsweek's list of 10 worst countries. We're no North Korea or Afghanistan (and hopefully, won't go the way of those impoverished and violence-stricken countries) but we need to work together as a nation. Then, relax—see a movie!

Quality

Yes, moviegoing is still the top entertainment pastime in the country. "It depends on the quality of the movies in exhibition," points out Alabang Town Center's theater officer in charge, Exequiel Kenneth Laudit.

And the quality of the cinema houses, we may add. Small wonder that there's been a vigorous effort in upgrading the film theaters in the metropolis. Laudit acknowledges the Ayala's Glorietta and Greenbelt as initiators. But he doesn't consider these Makati-based theaters as competitors.

Neither are the newly refurbished moviehouses of Megamall and Robinson's Galleria, which are located in Mandaluyong and Pasig cities, respectively, nor the nearby SM Southmall and Festival Supermall.

"Each one caters to a different market," Laudit explains. We observe, though, that all cineplexes basically offer the same amenities: digital sound surround system, cushioned seats with matching cup holders and cool air conditioning.

Laudit proudly shares that Alabang Town Center's Cinema 1 has THX facilities for a more enhanced digital sound capability. Too, all of its four theaters have carpeted aisles, fabric walls and "Euro-seating" that approximates airline seats.

Advance screenings

Since its opening in 1994, the mall has sponsored a lot of advance screenings of Hollywood flicks. For the soft launch of the renovated cinemas, the Town Center hosted one of the premiere night galas of the Aga Muhlach-Regine Velasquez blockbuster, "Pangako...Ikaw Lang" (the other was held at Megamall).

The crowd was also thrilled to recognize the location of some of the scenes in the movie, since Regine's character owns and runs a flower shop at the Town Center. Director Joyce Bernal deftly obeys her producers' orders as the movie promotes the mall without sacrificing the film's integrity.

Alabang Town Center's Laudit believes that hosting movie premiere nights is a good way of broadening its market share, from A-B to broad C classes.

THE ALABANG Town Center cineplex recently hosted the premiere of the Aga Muchlach–Regine Velasquez starrer, "Pangako... Ikaw Lang" (stars shown at right).

Expect more show-biz activities not only at the Town Center but also at the other malls in the Alabang area. For instance, the Judy Ann Santos-Mikey Arroyo starrer held its premiere night recently at the SM Southmall.

KRISTINE Hermosa was voted sixth sexiest beauty.

GADDABOUT

Is the Screenwriters' Guild of the Philippines waking up for real this time?

BY RAMON REY E. BAYRON

THEY came to be counted, and not even a storm could stop them. If the attendance at the Screenwriters' Guild of the Philippines' general assembly last July 8 at Mowelfund is any indication, it seems that our Pinoy screen and television writers are finally taking their association seriously, meaning that they are ready to reinvent their guild and make it more proactive and effective in protecting and improving the plight of the writers in the industry.

Indeed, writer power was palpable that Sunday with formidable names like Ricardo Lee, Pete Lacaba, Lualhati Bautista, Roy Iglesias, Jake Tordesillas, Shaira Mella-Salvador, Gina Marissa Tagasa, Meek Roxas, Jun Lana and a host of new and veteran writers all giving their support for the Guild's much-needed "resurgence" and return to relevance at this crucial time in the entertainment industry's history.

It can even be said that if aliens landed at Mowelfund that afternoon and abducted all the participants at the meeting, the operations of the country's two giant media networks, ABS-CBN and GMA, along with film companies such as Viva, Star and Regal, would all be paralyzed. This is writers' power still untapped and unutilized.

Since SGP is a thinking man's group, the discussion at times turned passionate, but nothing went unchecked. For this, the credit goes to its president, Ricky Lee. The SGP head has got the experience, the fame and the talent to back him up for the reforms that he will be presenting to all concerned in behalf of his fellow writers. Hopefully, SGP will not only maintain this newfound momentum but heats it up further until concrete actions and solutions are finally worked out. Happier writers should mean happier producers because of happier viewers due to better stories, right?

For this, the guild needs to strengthen one important aspect, the unity of all its members. Writing is a lonely profession, the cliche goes. But these "lonely" writers need not be alone, in the business at least. Keep banding together and discover the truth in another cliché: the pen is mightier than the . . . stars?

FHM showcases 100 sexiest women @ Dish party

I missed the actual girls, though.

When FHM (For Him Magazine) throws a party, expect sexy, gyrating women to rule the dance floor. Not that I'm complaining and I think I speak for the rest of the guys who were lucky to get an invite to Dish earlier this month.

The long line at the entrance, mostly men (bachelors? Who cares!) eager to take a peek, (at the pictures! What were you thinking?) spoke enough of how highly anticipated this "event" was, 'coz it was not just any other party. No way! FHM just "uncovered" the world's 100 sexiest women through a four-month online survey and the Dish gig was supposed to be the celebration to highlight the poll results.

I'm sure that the voting was done exclusively by Filipino men because the list included several local actresses, with Donita Rose landing in the No. 2 spot! She is joined by Regine Velasquez, No. 4, Kristine Hermosa, No. 6, Angela Velez, No. 8, Joyce Jimenez, No. 13 and Jackie Forster, No. 52, among others (Kris Aquino is No. 54).

Who's No.1? Now, that I'm not revealing. Guess any interested reader should get his copy of FHM (with dream girl G Toengi on the cover) for the answer. But if the ladies mentioned above aren't enough of a come-on for you to secure an issue, then how about supermodel Carmen Electra, Elizabeth Hurley, Julia Roberts and Angelina Jolie joining the fray and revealing more than we usually get to see?

SGP GENERAL ASSEMBLY. Guild officers Ricky Lee and Pete Lacaba (center) with both veteran and new scriptwriters.

Verni Varga performs jazz variations at Hard Rock Cafe

HARD Rock Cafe and City Lite 88.3 present jazz great Verni Varga in a concert on July 30 at 9:30 p.m.

Verni is expected to perform "Take Five" as well as different songs that represent the different variations of the jazz genre, from acid jazz to pop jazz to Latin jazz. Call 893-4661.

Pops on GMA

Pops Fernandez will be seen in a limited engagement as the featured artist on GMA's "Larawan" starting August 1 and every Wednesday night of August after "Beh, Bote Nga."

Her five episodes will feature her opposite such stars as Jaya, Princess Punzalan, Bobby Andrews, Carlo Muñoz, Albert Martinez, Gary Estrada.

Goodwill Book Club forum

On July 29, from 1 to 3 p.m., the Goodwill Book Club invites book lovers to discuss Philip Roth's novella, "The Dying Animal," at Cafe Literati at the third floor of Goodwill Bookstore at the Glorietta in Makati City.

The novella about obsessive love and sex in the academe is about David Kepesh, the star lecturer at a New York college who meets Consuelo Castillo, the young daughter of wealthy Cuban exiles, who promptly puts his life into erotic disorder.

VARGA. July 30 show.

Critics have cited "The Dying Animal"as "intellectually bold...a story of sexual discovery told about himself by a man of 70, a story about the power of *eros* and the fact of death."

Lead moderators for the forum is Juillie Yap-Daza and the co-facilitators and resource persons are Dr. Agnes Bueno and Rep. Rolex Suplico of the fifth district of Iloilo. The discussion is free and open to the public. Call Angel at 810-5930.

New restaurant

There's a new restaurant in town that's fast gaining a loyal clientele—Kulinarya Kitchen at the ground floor of Rockwell's Power Plant mall. The food is outstanding, the prices are great, and the decor is refreshingly modern. The regular crowd is a mix of the young and the hip, business tycoons, politicians and beautiful people.

MONTAGE

ABS-CBN workshops

The ABS-CBN Center for Communication Arts, Inc. holds another series of workshops starting today, July 21. It offers a variety of courses on broadcast communications. Participants can choose from specific areas in Acting (Film and TV, or Musical Theater), News (Newscasting, News Reporting, or Writing for News and Documentary), Directing (Film, TV, or Concert) and Production (Stage Management, News Production and Concert Production).

For more information call 4153828/4169366 or e-mail: workshops@abs-cbn.com. To register online, log on to http:\\ccai.pinoycentral.com.

'MTV's Cribs'

"MTV's Cribs," one of the leading programs in the US, is finally here.

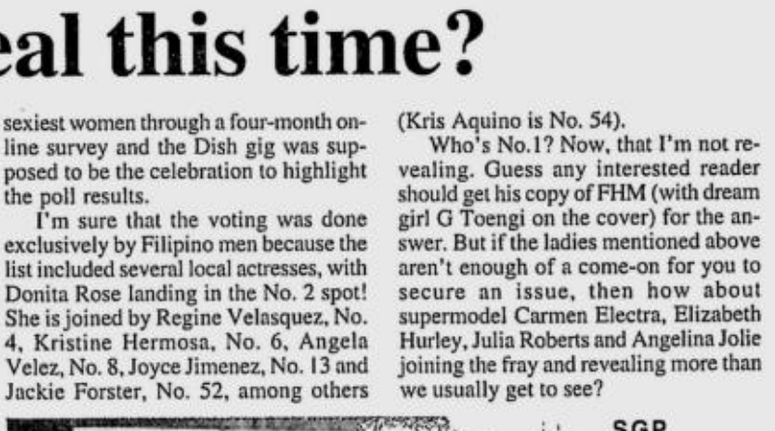
On the show, the artists themselves serve as tour guides as they show you where they work, play, eat, sleep and live. Catch glimpses of the homes of Ozzy Osbourne, Joey McIntyre, Sugar Ray, Outkast, Destiny's Child, Snoop Dogg, Robbie Williams, Tommy Lee and other stars.

"MTV's Cribs" airs every Monday at 8 p.m. on MTV Channel 41. The show has repeats on Wednesday at 1 p.m., Thursday at 2 p.m. and Saturday at 8 a.m.

Cool compilation

Vodka Ice, in cooperation with Warner Music Philippines, launches "Vodka Ice Chill-Out Nights," the cool CD compilation that's the ultimate chill for urban warrriors. The CD features 12 cuts of modern music ranging from acid jazz, trip-trip, ambient space new age, progressive electronic and acid house.

The album is distributed exclusively at Padi's Point, Streetlife, Grilla and Bedrock.



KULINARYA KITCHEN. Fast gaining a loyal clientele.

"THE DYING ANIMAL," Philip Roth's latest novella, will be discussed at Cafe Literati on July 29.

'The Lighter Side of Music' at St. Scholastica's College

ST SCHOLASTICA'S College and St. Scholastica's Music Alumni Association present "The Lighter Side of Music" on July 22 at 5 p.m. at the St. Cecilia's Hall, St. Scholastica's College, Manila. This is a concert featuring light, easy and bouncy pieces like "Night and Day," "Begin the Beguine," "Tico-Tico" and "New York, New York" to name a few.

Performance

Leading the performance are Mother Angelica Leviste, OSB, Mother Prioress of the Benedictine Missionaries of the Philippines, and Priscilla dela Fuente Sison, SSMAA president. Other performers include Celine Ledesma Lim, Mary Jo Wright Tanpinco, Mary Ann Wright Anover, Merlie Abrajano Yapchulay, Catherine Zulueta and cellist Wilfredo Pasamba.

Highlights of the concert include a Filipino section which will feature an original two-piano composition, "Tanda de Vals" by Jose Ledesma Jr., to be performed by his daughter, Celine Ledesma Lim and accompanied by Merlie Abrajano Yapchulay. Two Filipino love songs, arranged for piano and cello, "Iyo Kailan Pa Man" and "Langit sa Lupa" will be performed by cellist Wilfredo Pasamba and pianist Priscilla dela Fuente Sison.

Spanish music

Part II will consist mostly of Spanish music arranged for piano and organ to be performed by the Wright sisters, Mary Jo Tanpinco and Mary Ann Anover. They will play pieces like "Malagueña," "Andalucia," "La Cumparsa" and "Bolero."

The third part will be the section of the '50s, '60s up to the '90s, to be performed by Mother Angelica Leviste, OSB, Priscilla dela Fuente Sison, Celine Ledesma Lim, Merlie Abrajano Yapchulay and Catherine Zulueta. All the pieces will be played on two pianos accompanied by two synthesizers.

Donations to the concert will benefit the various outreach programs of the Music Alumni to bring music to the less privileged and to the aged, and to purchase the acoustic shell needed for St. Cecilia's Hall. For inquiries, please call Dimples at 524-7686 (89) and Pachot at 913-4727.

Lino Brocka remembered

By Nestor U. Torre

WE'VE gotten appreciative feedback on our recent pieces on our latest National Artist for Film, Ishmael Bernal—plus requests that we also write about the late Lino Brocka. Done!

We first met Brocka through our best buddy Behn Cervantes, who helped Lino get his bearings when he came from the province to study at the University of the Philippines.

Later, Lino gained entry into post-campus theater at Peta, where he directed one of our plays ("Cargoes") and acted in another ("Indio"). That early, we evinced in Lino's directing style a realistic albeit occasionally theatrical bent that, it turned out, would later serve him well when he started directing for the movies.

BROCKA (second from left) with his actors in "Wanted: Perfect Mother": Gina Alajar, Snooky Serna, Ariosto Reyes, Liza Lorena, Dante Rivero and Caridad Sanchez.

Exciting years

The '70s were exciting years, full of creative promise on the one hand, and danger resulting from the spirit of political activism on the other. Lino vivified those twin passions in his life and craft.

But he made sure that his first producers didn't know that he had an activist ace up his directorial sleeve. Ever the practical one, he worked hard to develop a reputation for coming up with "commercial" smash hits, starting with his very first film for Lea Productions, "Wanted: Perfect Mother," so that producers would later allow him to do more serious movies.

The film was "only" a budget production "inspired" by "The Sound of Music," but it was the unexpected hit of the early '70s.

Huge success

In fact, it did so well that, practically single-handedly, its huge success prompted producers to quickly "discover" young directing talents of their own. Some people may sniff at "Wanted..." and describe it as a piece of cinematic fluff, but it turned out to be an important movie because it convinced hard-nosed film producers that "arty" stage directors were not to be feared, and instead should be courted and hired, because they could come up with very profitable movies.

Right after "Wanted . . .," Lino was contracted to direct other movies one after the other, in the hope that they would also turn out to be winners. The biggest of these productions, by far, was "Santiago," because it starred no less than the Filipino movie industry's "King of Action Films," Fernando Poe Jr.

Gargantuan task

Never mind that Lino wasn't an action director, he was given the "honor" of directing King FPJ. He took on that gargantuan task even if it wasn't really within his ken or interest because, if it clicked, it would make him an even more bankable director. With that kind of box office clout, producers would then permit him to direct the much more daring, committed and "dangerous" films he really wanted to make.

Well, the inevitable happened: Lino and FPJ clashed. It really couldn't be avoided because they came from two different cinematic worlds, and never the twain did meet, except with a lot of anger and trauma.

Unnerved

Lino was quite unnerved by the experience. He tried to keep his cool as best he could and went on to finish the movie, but the stress told on him in a manner that he couldn't control: it left a psychological emblem, a white spot on his cheek, for the young director to remember his mis-encounter with FPJ by.

Years later, Lino would point to that white spot on his cheek and call it his FPJ beauty spot. Truth to tell, however, the experience was far from beautiful.

Still, "Santaigo" emerged as a must-see film, and FPJ did better in it than in most of his other starrers, so both he and Lino were able to prove their thespic points.

Criticized

For his part, however. Lino was criticized for the overly stagy way with which he mounted some scenes in the film, with the townspeople acting like a Greek chorus, in full theatrical froth.

But we will always remember "Santiago" for the great way with which it showcased the very young and beautiful Hilda Koronel, in her "introducing" screen appearance:

LINO with his "daughter" in cinema, Hilda Koronel.

After a fire, a house has been gutted to its foundations, and everything is covered with ash, soot and a few embers.

Then, in the midst of all that bleakness, a hand reaches out from beneath the ashes. There's a survivor!

As the figure crawls out, it turns out to be the lovely Hilda, her beautiful face "blooming" like a brave lily in that landscape of death and destruction.

What a great first shot for a new actress! And only Lino Brocka could have thought it up for the luminous young talent who would later become his artistic "daughter" in cinema. ***(To be continued)***

WORD OF MOUTH

Sandy Daza

Ilocos empanada

I WAS always convinced that a tropical country would have a more difficult time progressing. The heat affected one's initiative to work or it made the residents more short-tempered and less patient.

Then, I went to visit Singapore and that theory had to be thrown out the window. While I was there, I could not help but admire the progress, beauty and cleanliness of that tropical country. Apart from being one of the most prominent among the many Asian countries, it is also visited by millions of tourists every year.

Progressive

Tourists!—that's what makes it progressive. Apart from the discipline and cleanliness, it is the tourists that bring in the business. Now, what do the tourists go there for? "Shopping and food!" The shopping, I noticed, is done mostly at shops like Gucci, St. Laurent, Gap, Armani etc. Those, we have here. So, what about food?

I believe that there are dozens of various specialties that our country can offer. So delicious are these delicacies that if the tourists try them, they will dance with glee.

The big BUT is that most of them are not presented well. Presentation means sanitation as well as being appealing to the eye. If we had a governing body (incorruptible, of course) that could monitor sanitation and visual appeal, I believe we could surpass other countries and be the leader we once were.

Specialties

The best people to ask about specialties from the provinces are the politicians. They always know where to get the best "whatever." An example is one item which was born in the province but has found its way to Manila. It is new (to us), different and delicious. It was introduced to me by Gov. Bong of Ilocos Norte: Tacos Ti Arnianan or Ilocos empanada. I can stand in the plaza of Laoag or Batac and down four of these special snacks.

These are cooked and shredded young papaya with ground cooked mongo beans mixed with mashed Laoag, Batac or Vigan longaniza and fresh egg, and covered in an orangey rice flour, sealed and deep-fried.

Served hot with *sukang* Iloko with lots of finger *sili* and chopped shallots, it is a dream snack. (In fact, after writing this, I'm gonna get some. *Gutom ako*).

It is crunchy, creamy, spicy and sour and is perfect with a cold drink. One that makes you hiccup and makes your eyes watery. If you experience that, you're on the right track.

Discovery

It is a must! The presentation is also acceptable to a foreign guest, compared to the original ones in the provinces which might prompt a bit of hesitation because of food handling. Want to sample some and see if it would indeed warrant discovery by tourists?

There's one outlet along Katipunan in front of Miriam College, owned by badminton sensation, Carol Halili. That's the Laoag version. The place is called Ilocos Empanada. Look for the purple-colored sign beside the Rack's sign.

Another is at the rotonda of Tomas Morato, in front of What's Your Beef beside Mama Rosa (excellent burgers). This one is the Vigan version (Vigan Longaniza).

So, if there are plans to duplicate Singapore's success, I recommend these two outlets to help bail us out.

HAPPY EATING!

Studio 23 shows garner Emmy nominations

STUDIO 23 programs ran away with 34 Emmy nominations when the US Academy of Television Arts and Sciences recently announced its nominees for the 53rd Annual Primetime Emmy Awards.

The political drama, "The West Wing" (Studio 23, Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.), dominated the drama category along with another major honoree, HBO's "The Sopranos."

Last year's big comedy series winner "Will & Grace" (Studio 23 Sunday, 9 p.m.) got 11 nominations this year, dominating the Comedy categories.

Supporting actors Sean Hayes and Megan Mullaly, who both took home Emmy statuettes last year, are again up for awards, as are series leads Eric McCormack and Debra Messing. The show was also cited in the Best Comedy Series category.

Studio 23's newest sitcom, "Bette" (Sunday, 8 p.m.) is up for best art direction. Several unconventional favorites were also cited by the Television Academy: "Survivor," whose first two seasons were broadcast on 23, went home with three nominations, while animated series "Futurama" (Sunday, 7 p.m.) received one nomination.

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LIST OF DAILY WINNERS

ALCATEL 701	SIEMENS SL56	PHILIPS 820	ERICSSON A2618 with Bluetooth
June 9 - Angelito Lacap from Angeles City	June 15 - Vilma Badio from Samar	June 23 - Johnny Martinez from Antipolo	June 30 - Rodrigo Turay from Quezon City
June 10 - Amon Acampong from Lansodal Norte	June 17 - Benjamin Samonte from Pampanga	June 24 - Kathy Ann Lago from Leyte	July 1 - Allan Encarnado from Cavite
June 11 - Rogelio Carlos from Lucena City	June 18 - Jamilah Macala from Manila	June 25 - Rafe Simbulan from Marikina	July 2 - Alda Ng from Quezon City
June 12 - Edison Tuna from Quezon City	June 19 - Alberto Lan from Manila	June 26 - Arlene Bon from Cebu	July 3 - Maria Fe Estanto from Iloilo
June 13 - Rolando Velasco from Ilocos Sur	June 20 - Gila Villanueva from Bacolod	June 27 - Angelo Ra from Cavite	July 4 - Maynard Lumhoy from Cavite
June 14 - Charito Asaperos from Valenzuela	June 21 - Norma Ramirez from Ilocos Norte	June 28 - Marilla Cerna from Parañaque	July 5 - Edwin Fernandez from Quezon
June 15 - Redmundo Mangoba from Bulacan	June 22 - Christopher Guzman from Pangasinan	June 29 - Joan Manlapaz from Pasig	July 6 - Melvin Alvarado from Valenzuela

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Kirsten Dunst gets serious in 'crazy/beautiful'

The former child star plays a troubled teen in her latest starrer

DUNST AND HERNANDEZ. From rebellious flirtation to true romance.

AFTER appearing in lightweight teen comedies like "Bring It On" and "Get Over It," Kirsten Dunst tackles a more serious role in the sexy teen drama "crazy/beautiful."

Dunst plays Nicole Oakley, the troubled daughter of a wealthy congressman (Bruce Davison) who attends public school in the upscale seaside community of Pacific Palisades, California. A 17-year-old girl in constant trouble with authority figures, Nicole is a disappointment to her increasingly distant dad and his second wife. Growing up without her biological mother, the troubled teen wastes her time skipping classes, partying and hanging out with her friends.

As an act of defiance, she makes a play for the attention of handsome Latino Carlos Nuñez (Jay Hernandez), a focused, straight-A student who endures a two-hour bus ride each morning from East L.A. to attend the more prestigious school in Nicole's exclusive suburb.

While Nicole's friends and family forecast doom for their relationship, her rebellious flirtation soon develops into true romance. However, her self-destructive tendencies threaten Carlos' ambitions, leading to an emotional and climactic confrontation.

"crazy/beautiful" is a testament to the power and intensity of first love, and reveals how, in coming together, two young but damaged souls can heal one another.

Emotional scope

According to screenwriter Phil Hay, "We wanted to make a film that had emotional scope and was different from what one usually sees when dealing with teenage characters. We didn't want to write something light and frothy. 'crazy/beautiful' is a movie that takes its teenage characters seriously."

"The role of Nicole is completely different from any character I've ever played," Dunst says. "It's so raw and real and no one's ever seen me in this type of role before. My character has no ambition in life. She is very unstable and has so much baggage, which is completely different from me."

For the pivotal role of Carlos Nuñez the filmmakers cast relative newcomer Jay Hernandez. Although Hernandez has only appeared in a few television and feature film roles, "crazy/beautiful" marks his introduction to a wide audience.

First big role

Kirsten Dunst describes her co-star as "A pro. This is his first big role and he handled it wonderfully. He was so great to work with and a really wonderful guy. We had a lot of intimate scenes together, and it was nice to have someone there who I felt very comfortable with. He made everything so much easier."

Returning the compliment, Hernandez says of Kirsten, "She's sweet and really down to earth. She's done a lot of movies and knew how much pressure I was under. But from day one she said to me, 'If there's anything I can do to help you, you know I'll do it.' She was really wonderful to me."

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Record outfits declare war on piracy

BY KAREN MATUSIC

LONDON—In Russia, a music fan can buy every song pop singer Elton John has ever recorded on one CD.

No mean feat since the British superstar never released such a collection. It's one of 1.8 billion pirate recordings sold each year, many by organized crime syndicates branching out into music from the money laundering and drug smuggling industries.

Report

According to a report by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI), music piracy is on the rise and was worth $4.2 billion in 2000. One in three of all cassettes or CDs sold each year are illegally produced.

"Piracy is rising alarmingly in our established markets, and the two main reasons are the proliferation of new, cheap technologies for illegal commercial copying and inadequate enforcement by governments," IFPI chairman and CEO Jay Berman told a press conference.

The London-based IFPI represents the interests of more than 1,400 record producers and distributors in 76 countries. It seeks to fight music piracy and to lobby for fair market access and good copyright laws.

Scam

Record companies say the scam has shrunk the industry and will lead to less money being spent developing new artists.

"The record companies will reduce their rosters . . . (piracy) is drying up the investment pool for new music. I have not heard of any new brands being produced by pirates," Berman said.

Fighting piracy on the Internet—a "100 percent pirate medium"—was a growing priority, Berman said. The IFPI is promoting Songbird, an anti-piracy software tool, that enables artists and musicians to track down who has done what with their compositions on song-swap websites such as Napster.

"Fighting the Internet pirates, who build their business by offering recordings free, with no respect for the artist, the producer or the music, is a critical part of the move to a legitimate online music market," he said.

The reports names China, Russia, Mexico, Brazil and Italy as its main targets to fight domestic piracy, though countries in southeast Asia and eastern Europe, particularly Ukraine, are the main manufacturers and exporters of pirate product.

Scale

Iain Grant, head of IPFI's anti-piracy enforcement unit, said a recent trip to a Mexico City's vast Tepito market illustrates the scale of the problem in the developing world.

"In that huge market, I did not see one single legal industrial CD on sale. They were all pirates. The scale is incredible," Grant said.

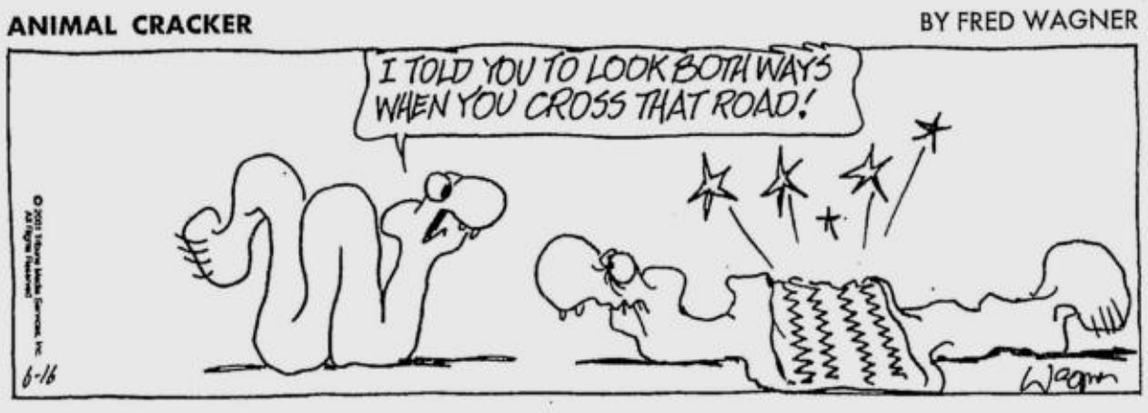
In fact, the CD vendors in Tepito recently awarded singer Luis Miguel, Mexico's answer to Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra and Michael Jackson, one prize he could do without—a plaque for being the best-selling pirated artist. *Reuters*

ELTON John is only one of many stars whose songs are routinely released in illegal editions by recording "pirates."

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS

A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA

ANIMAL CRACKER BY FRED WAGNER



PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY

SIMO BY EDGAR DIONELA

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

B1 GANG BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG

BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON

MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL

HI AND LOIS BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

TULDOK BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Robin Williams, Norman Jewison, Don Knotts, Isaac Stern, Janet Reno, Josh Hartnett

Happy Birthday: Preparation will be the key to your success this year. You will field all sorts of offers. If you aren't well-informed and ready to roll, you may miss an opportunity of a lifetime. Time may be money, but mistakes will be your downfall. Don't be too proud to ask for help or to acknowledge errors. Your numbers: 5, 16, 23, 34, 37, 39

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Added discipline will enable you to make those personal changes you've been thinking about. Let go of the old and prepare for the new. A change will lift your spirits.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A romantic relationship will develop through social gatherings, sports or fitness clubs. Activities with children will help you understand them better.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You need to run your ideas past someone you trust. A greater interest in foreign cultures will help broaden your outlook and perspective on future events.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Use your energy wisely. Pamper yourself to raise your self-esteem. Deception will play an important part in relationships with others. Question those who appear to be hiding things. Social events will be plentiful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You're ahead of your time. Slow down and let everyone else catch up. You may need to coax others to join you. Don't curtail your personal partner's freedom.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be sure to have all your papers in order. Underhandedness could lead to isolation. Don't take chances while traveling.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't make plans that will cost a bundle. You need to tighten your belt and refrain from letting money slip through your fingers. Use your ingenuity to come up with activities that won't break the bank.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Disruptions are likely if you confront loved ones with complaints and general dislikes. Think before you ruin the weekend. Do these trivial concerns really matter that much?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will be sensitive toward others. Look for positive ways to spend your day. Your persuasive words will make your suggestions too tempting for your partner to refuse.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You need time alone with the one you yearn for. Tell others how you feel and what your desires are: a quiet, intimate interlude.

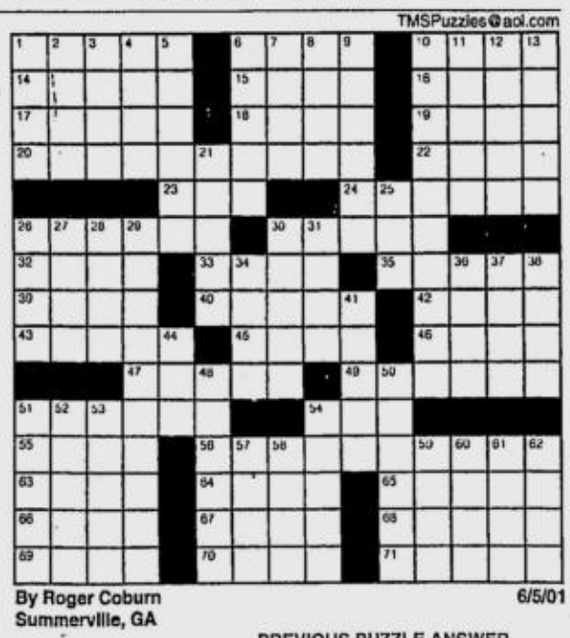
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let others come between you and your lover. You need to be honest and precise about what you want to avoid misunderstandings.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take care of any minor health problems. Organize your day in such a way that you have time to do things with those who depend on you for company.

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, engaging and always right where the action is. You have an uncanny memory that will help you make the right choices throughout life. You are sensitive, loving and quick to respond to others.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



ACROSS
1 Fragrant conifer
6 Lummox
10 Subway station
14 Earth's ultraviolet filter
15 Al Capp's hyena
16 Cable
17 Detroit team
18 Author Hunter
19 Exude
20 Helsinkian on a shark's back?
22 Fender flaw
23 __ Alamos, NM
24 Vitality
26 Fruit ice
30 Merriment
32 Square measure
33 Area code 801
35 Parts of feet
39 Shakespearean king
40 Missile berths
42 Home of most people
43 Pyramids and mausoleums
45 Star of "Sleepy Hollow"
46 Pealed
47 Comforts
49 Shrewd
51 __ Vallarta, Mexico
54 Sell-out letters
55 Memo acronym
56 Carte blanche in Prague?
63 Pianist Peter
64 Exposed
65 __ Lumpur, Malaysia
66 Ho-hum
67 Abu Dhabi leader
68 Singer John
69 Section of a church
70 Deceased
71 Does some light housekeeping

DOWN
1 Chilly
2 Basso Pinza
3 Way in
4 Blyth and Sheridan
5 Used-car purchase
6 Staff signs
7 Son of Leah
8 Son of Judah
9 Actress Blythe
10 Stockholm lover?
11 Track official
12 Round gasket
13 Trivial
21 Water lily
25 Final degree
26 Weapons talks, briefly
27 Nabisco cookie
28 Twenty quires
29 Hairdresser from Warsaw?
30 Man and boy
31 Restaurant chain acronym
34 Prevailing trend
36 Son of Isaac
37 Dryer trappings
38 Master or guru
41 Fire starter

By Roger Coburn
Summerville, GA

6/5/01

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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A	S	H		E	L	A	Y	N	E		T	A	D	S	

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8/5/01

ANSWER ON MONDAY

44 Took a chair
48 Wept
50 Punched
51 Bearlike mammal
52 Consume completely
53 Holliman and Scruggs
54 Bergen's Mortimer
57 Feeble
58 Diva's number
59 Bantu language
60 Swallows
61 Blood formation
62 __ Christian Andersen

The shape of films to come

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST Saturday, we watched "Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within," and saw the shape of films to come. The sneak preview of film's possible future hit us with a jolt because it was so unexpected. Not only did the computer-animated sci-fi feature break new ground, but it also chose to do it in the particularly daunting field of "people animation."

Tough challenge

Making people come alive onscreen without resorting to human actors is a particularly tough challenge for animators because it's a bit like playing God: you have to breathe complex life into inanimate elements.

Even more difficult, you can't stop short at life, you have to go the limit and work on verisimilitude, character, emotion, credible texture of skin and hair, movement of muscles, constantly changing light and shadow—etc!

It's no wonder that animators used to steer clear depicting people, or else stopped at drawing them as cartoon caricatures. The minute you animate people as individuals, you've really got your work cut out for yourself, because personality is one of the toughest elements to capture and bring to life on the screen.

Best shot

Well, the animators behind "Final Fantasy" have given that tough assignment their best shot, and they've partially succeeded. At first, the human characters in this animated feature appear to move in a slightly out-of-sync manner, as though they were floating, and their footfalls lack weight and gravity.

Another tell-tale sign is seen in their eyes, which lack the light and spark of natural human sight. They look more like the eyes of people who have been hypnotized.

Also off-putting is the artificial way their mouths move when they speak, without much unction or truly felt emphasis.

Limitations

After a while, however, the viewer accepts these limitations as part of the computer-animation game at this middle stage of its development, and goes on to marvel at the elements that *are* effectively pulled off.

While the lead characters in "Final Fantasy" are Dr. Aki Ross and Capt. Gray Edwards, the best-realized figure is that of Ross' mentor, Dr. Sid. This character is brought to the screen with convincing realism: beard, hair, skin tone, wrinkles, movement of facial muscles, gestures—the works.

This makes us realize that computer animation of humans comes off best when there's a lot of texture to the character being animated for the computer artists to play around with and to blend together.

Combination

The *combination* of elements related to age and personality creates the illusion that the character is alive. Young characters are more difficult to bring to digital life because with them, animators have fewer elements to work with. As a result, the artificiality of their contrivance is less easy to disguise.

Compare Dr. Sid to Dr. Aki Ross: the older scientist is wonderfully textured and vital, while Dr. Aki sometimes looks like a department store mannequin, and moves like she's in a daze.

The animation works best when there's a lot of texture to the character

"FINAL FANTASY." Breaking new ground in computer animation.

Believable sheen

The best thing about the way that Dr. Aki has been animated is her hair. It moves quite naturally, it has a believable sheen, and it certainly looks more real than the way that her facial features have been digitally rendered.

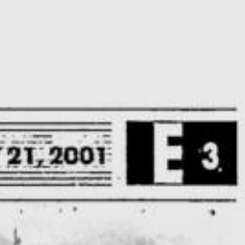
But the weakest element in "Final Fantasy" is its plotting. We're in the year 2065, and the Earth has been attacked by a horde of monstrous phantoms from outer space, killing millions of people with their deadly virus. Earthmen have two options: coming up with a powerful "wave" force that can drive the horrible aliens away, or shooting them to kingdom come with a powerful Zeus cannon, which could take a terrible toll on our planet's environment.

Hitch

So, Drs. Sid and Aki are working hard to refine their "wave." But the hitch is, they need eight special elements to create it, and those arcane elements are dauntingly difficult to find.

When they do manage to perfect the wave, they come to a surprising conclusion: the phantoms aren't as evil as initially believed, and in fact only feed on the evil in men's hearts and actuations. For instance, the more the Zeus cannon pummels them, the bigger and more powerful the dreaded phantoms become.

This is a forceful insight that raises the film's thematic level, but the search for the eight magic elements becomes tedious after a while, and the movie's villain, General Hein, is predictably limned and characterized. *(To be concluded)*



Love Cheese? Try the new Cheesy Crust from Pizza Hut. Its outer crust is stuffed with mozzarella & then topped with imported cheddar cheese that's baked to a crisp. You can choose Cheesy Crust with any of your favorite toppings. "For all you cheese-lovers out there, it's the kind of pizza you'll truly crave for!" says Diether Ocampo. Rush to your favorite Pizza Hut or call 911-11-11.

'Who Wants to be a Millionaire' enters its third season

By Remy M. Umerez

WHEN actor Christopher de Leon was asked to host the game show "Who Wants to be a Millionaire," his immediate reaction was "Why me?"

"I am primarily an actor. Hosting a show is something I hadn't done and I was rather pessimistic about my ability to do it right. But Boss Vic was very persistent, and the encouragement I got from friends made it easier for me to accept the offer.

When everything was finalized, De Leon was sent to London where the popular show originated and carefully observed how it was conducted.

Brainchild

"Who Wants to be a Millionaire" was born in London in September 1998. It was the brainchild of producer David Briggs of the British production company, Celador. He wanted to create a quiz show funded by premium phone calls. It has since become a global success with local editions now broadcasting in nearly 40 countries.

Host Christopher de Leon begins and ends the show with the line: Join now. Dial 1-908-1-000000.

The following are the steps to becoming a millionaire:

Dial the premium phone service provided by PLDT (1-908-1-000000). Calls are charged P10 per minute

You will be given the first qualifying question and asked to choose from four answers. If you answer correctly, the automated machine will ask you to select the number corresponding to your area of residence and then record your name, complete address and telephone number. Among the qualified callers, 100 semi-finalists will be randomly selected.

DE LEON. Reluctant host, at first.

If you get selected as one of the 100-semi-finalists, a PLDT customer service representative will call you for the final qualifying question. The 10 semi-finalists with the nearest answers will become the 10 finalists or studio contestants.

Coordinator

A coordinator will also make the travel arrangements for the contestants, which will be paid by the producers of the show.

All contestants with one companion each are required to check in for a free overnight stay with meals at the Traders Hotel on Roxas Boulevard.

All contestants will be requested to answer the Fastest Finger-First final qualifier. The first to give the correct reply will take the hot seat opposite host Christopher de Leon.

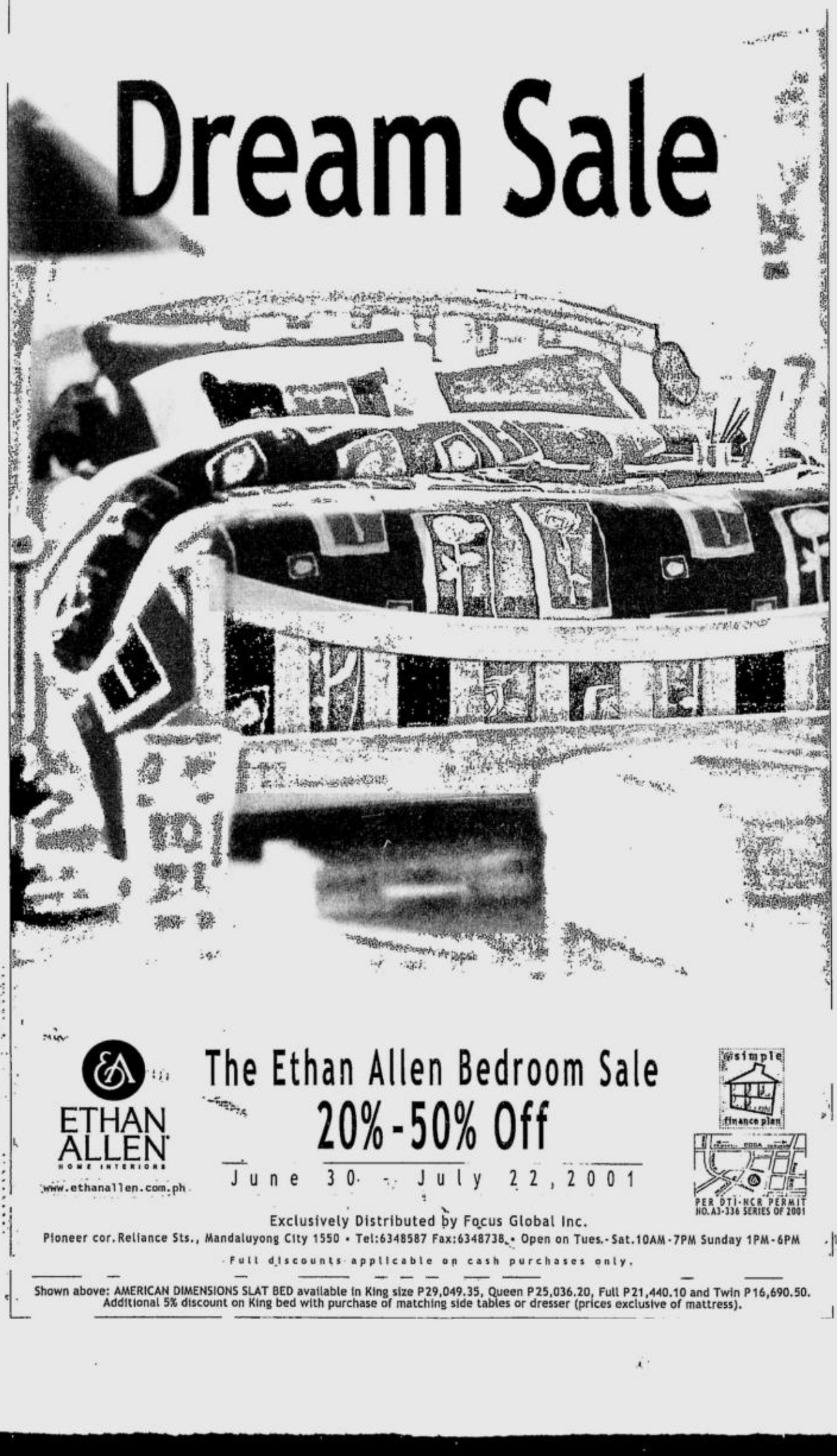
The contest begins with the first of 15 questions leading to the P2 million prize.

Lifelines are provided in the form of Ask the Audience, 50/50 and Dial a Friend.

The second season which started last March 5 had a whopping P2 million cash prize at stake. An elated Veronique del Rosario Corpus says: "The first season was so good that we thought it would be great to give a bigger prize for the contestants."

The biggest winner thus far is Alfredo Pili of Laguna, who won P400,000 during the first season.

Dream Sale



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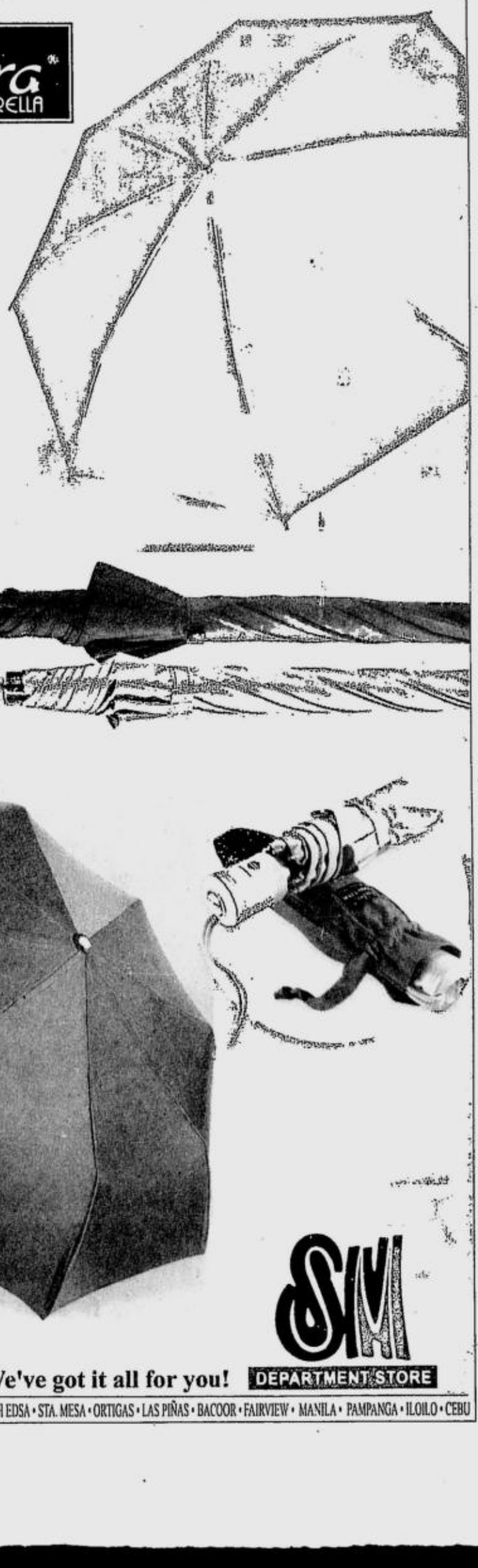

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rock

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Black Dog	Led Zeppelin	TONE BLACKDOG
Head Over Heels	Tears For Fears	TONE HEDOVRHIL
Hotel California	Eagles	TONE HOTELCALI
Iris	Googoo Dolls	TONE IRIS
Jump	Van Halen	TONE JUMP
Layla	Eric Clapton	TONE LAYLA
Losing My Religion	REM	TONE LOSINMY
Love Potion No.9	Jed Leiber	TONE LUVPOTION
Other Side	Red Hot Chilli Peppers	TONE ODERSYD
Someday	Sugar Ray	TONE SUMDAY
Strange Love	Depeche Mode	TONE STRNGELV
The Final Countdown	Europe	TONE FINALCNT
Turning Japanese	Vapors	TONE JAPANIS
Under The Bridge	Red Hot Chilli Peppers	TONE UNDRBRDG
Whole Lotta Love	Led Zeppelin	TONE WHOLAATALUV

movie

description	artist/composer	keyword
Addams Family Theme	Mike Post	TONE ADDAMS
Animal Song	Savage Garden	TONE ANIMAL
Duel Of the Fates	Star Wars Episode 1	TONE EPISODE1
Dying Young	James Newton Howard	TONE DIEYOUNG
Godfather Theme	N. Rota	TONE GODFATHER
I Don't Wanna Miss A Thing	Mett Serlitia	TONE MISATING
I Say A Little Prayer	My Best Friend's Wedding	TONE SAYALIL
Rocky Theme	Carol Connors	TONE ROCKY
Star Wars 3 Theme	John Williams	TONE STRWARS3
Superman Theme	Leon Klatskin	TONE SUPERMAN
The Imperial March	The Empire Strikes Back	TONE IMPERIAL
Under The Sea	Little Mermaid	TONE UNDERSEA
Xmen Theme		TONE XMEN

tv

description	artist/composer	keyword
Ally McBeal Theme	Vonda Shepard	TONE ALLYMC
Babylon 5 Theme	TV Cue	TONE BABYLON5
Batman Theme	Danny Elfman	TONE BATMAN
Dallas (TV Cue)	Stephen Inmel	TONE DALLAS
Doogie Howser Theme		TONE DOOGIE
Flintstone (TV Cue)	TV Cue	TONE FLINSTO
Jeopardy Theme	Merv Griffin	TONE JEPRDY
Scooby Doo Theme	Joseph Barbera	TONE SCOOBY
Simpsons Theme	Danny Elfman	TONE SIMPSONS

special

description	artist/composer	keyword
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Birdland	Joseph Zawinul	TONE BIRDLAND
Songbird	Kenny G	TONE SONGBIRD

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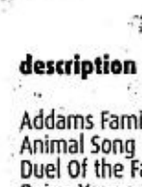

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INQUIRER

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2001 ✦ 12 PAGES ✦ VOLUME 5, NUMBER 40

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- Story: Goldie, the Vain Fish Page 6
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Cosplay conquers Manila

Pinoy otakus come out in full force dressed as their favorite anime characters

BY **CHRISTINE C. RIVERO**

HOLY *hitokiri*, everybody! The last couple of weeks, we've seen more anime fans than we could shake a *shinai* at, and not just any fan at that.

We're talking about "cosplayers," anime fans who slave over costumes, make-up and accessories to look like their favorite anime character for even just a day.

Two cosplay events took place a week after another this month. The first one, Artfarm Asia's 2001 Cosplay Manila, was held on July 7 at SM Megamall's Megatrade Hall. For the lowdown on that event, check out Snooper Adrian Dy's article on page 4.

It was followed by the AXN Anime Festival Philippines exactly a week later at SM Megamall's Atrium. More than a hundred fans came dressed as anime characters from series shown on the AXN cable channel, such as Fushigi Yugi, Gatekeepers, Steam Detectives and the very popular Samurai X.

We must have seen about a dozen Kenshin Himura, including one girl who, instead of coloring her hair, very creatively made a wig out of rolled newspapers.

There also seemed to be an endless parade of video game fanatics clad in Final Fantasy finery. All the latest versions of the game were represented, from Cloud of FF7 to Squall and Rinoa of FF8, and even Steiner from FF9 and Luna from the yet to be released FF10.

A definite standout was 20-year-old Fine Arts student Paul Mendoza from the University of the Philippines in Diliman who was dressed as a black wizard riding (take note, riding!) a chocobo.

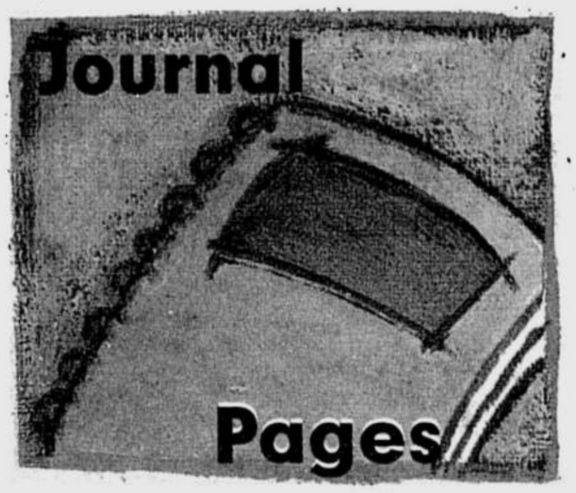
At first the crowd thought there were two people in the costume, a child dressed as the wizard and a poor stooped grown-up as the chocobo.

"Nope, there's only me in here," Paul assured us through his mask.

Three elegant young ladies also came dressed as Edea from FF8. The youngest among them, 16-year-old Denise Tsai Tee from Immaculate Conception Academy, bore the most striking resemblance to the enigmatic sorceress and was in fact the top winner during 2001 Cosplay Manila.

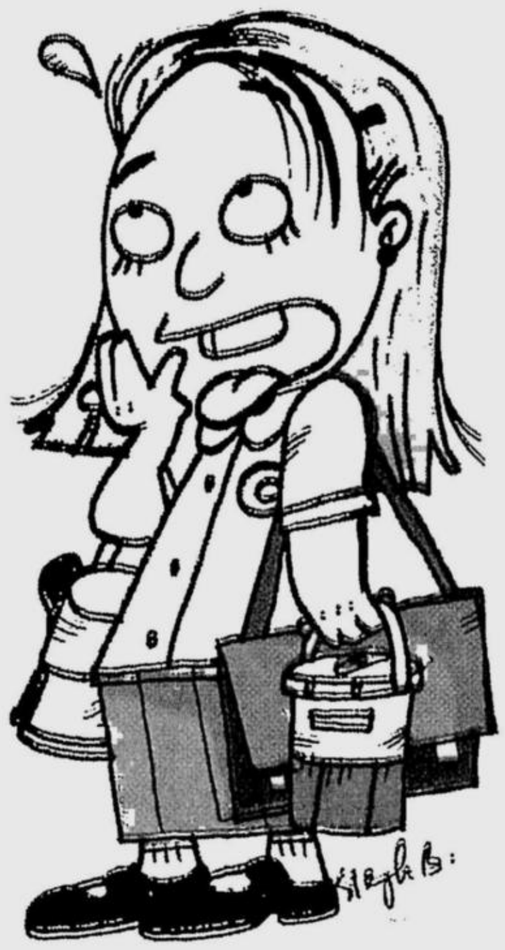
Cosplay/ p.4

PHOTO BY ROMY HOMILLADA



A Not-So-Good Year And a Fresh Start

BY DESDEMONA DIWATA S. ESPINA
QUEZON CITY



TO TELL you the truth, I didn't do very well during my junior year in high school. In fact, it was my worst year ever! I still get butterflies in my stomach whenever scenes from that year flash back in my mind.

But because I want to share a piece of my life with you readers, I've chased the "butterflies" away so I can tell you what I learned from the past year.

That school year was an awful one for me. I got half of my class mad at me, the reason of which is still unclear to me. But I believe, based on what we've talked about, what happened was just some shallow misunderstandings.

See, I was just this quiet student who didn't belong to the "class *barkadahan*." I was satisfied with what I had: two friends who understood what I was going through. My friends and I didn't really stand out. We just sat in a corner laughing about stuff most of you guys may find odd.

But the day came when almost half of our class—mostly girls—got mad at us. Some of them did some really unfair things to the three of us. That really affected me. I am quite a friendly girl so I'm not used to people getting angry with me.

I felt a little lost. I got a little depressed. I skipped class most of the time. I felt really horrible.

I admit it was irresponsible of me to just skip school. But I couldn't help it. I couldn't bear the treatment I was getting in class. But I decided that I would finish this once and for all.

In the end, we all talked and sorrys were said. We were back to normal.

But because of my absences, I failed three units. I got kicked out, and I was told that I would have to repeat my junior year in another school.

A Not-So-Good/p.10

Sound Familiar?
Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!

Straight from JI Readers

You can now reach us via e-mail! Our address is **ji@inquirer.com.ph** Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and your phone number. Hope to hear from you soon!

More anime articles, pls.

DEAR Editor,
It's me again! I love your newspaper and have read almost all of your issues! Your paper is so unique and impressive! But I also noticed that so many kids out there have been asking about anime articles. Even I've been asking for them! Really puzzling, right? So to prevent filling up your "Straight from JI Readers" column, why don't you grant our simple requests and make us happy kids! Just a suggestion, okay?—
NICOLE DE PANO, Cubao, Quezon City

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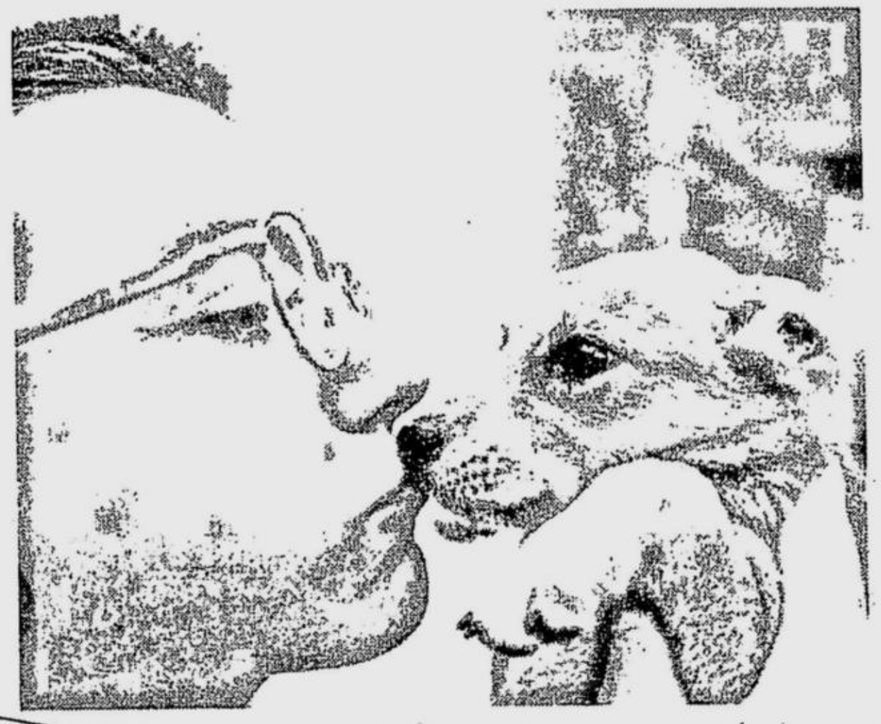
WORLD SCOPE

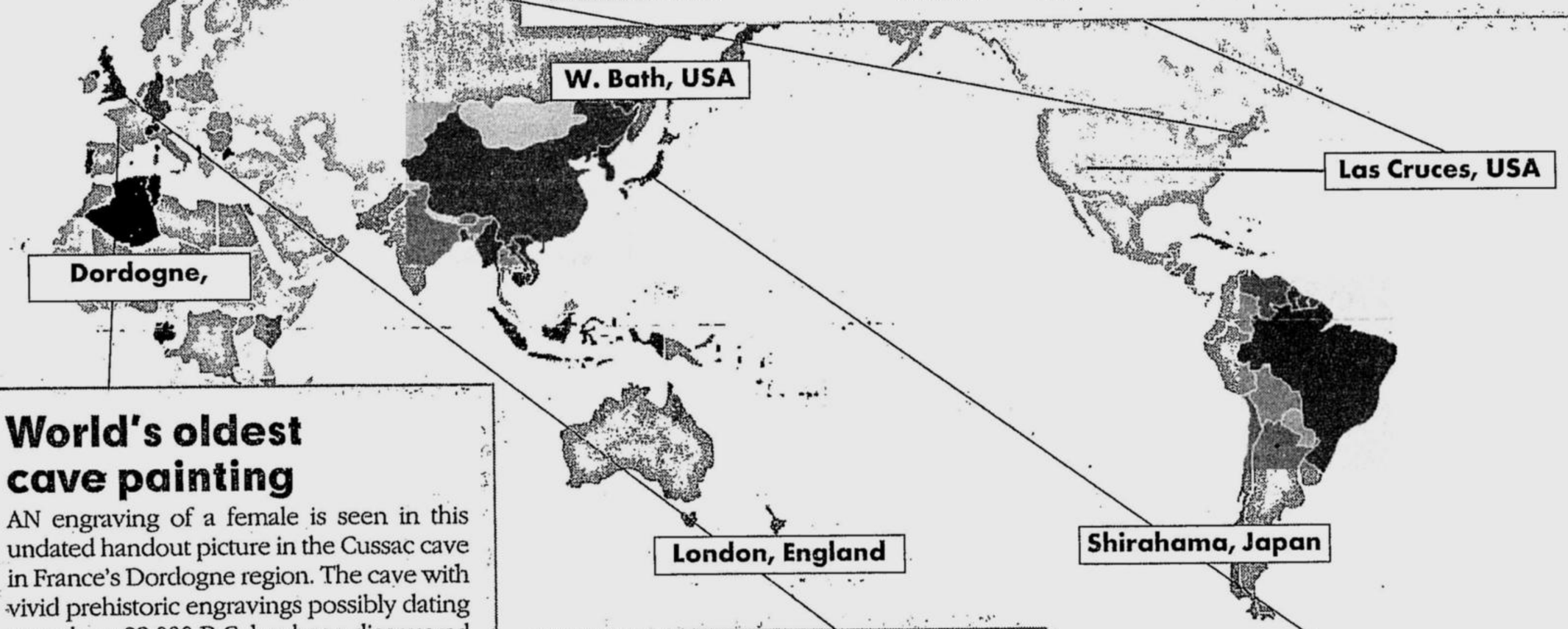
Pooch Protection

KELLY Davis of W. Bath, Maine, sits with police dog Apache, outside the W. Bath school. The 12-year-old's goal is to outfit every K-9 in Maine—that's more than 50 police dogs—with a bulletproof, stab-proof vest. The vests are made of the same Kevlar material that is used to protect officers. Motivated kids in more than 25 American states hold bake sales, wash cars and collect coins in tin cans to raise money to buy bulletproof vests for police dogs. ***AP***



Abandoned Pups

SOME humans can be so cruel...and some are very kind. Assistant Animal Care Supervisor Teri Schrader lovingly holds an abandoned puppy at the Las Cruces Animal Shelter in New Mexico. Five puppies were found in a sack in the desert. They were malnourished, infected with fleas and ticks and their ears and tails had been cut off. The Humane Society has offered a $500 reward for information leading to the arrest of anyone responsible for mutilating the pups. ***AP***



World's oldest cave painting

AN engraving of a female is seen in this undated handout picture in the Cussac cave in France's Dordogne region. The cave with vivid prehistoric engravings possibly dating as early as 28,000 B.C. has been discovered in western France, in what archaelogists are calling a major find. The cave was discovered by an amateur cave explorer in September, but was not announced until July 4, 2001. The engravings are believed to predate the world's oldest cave paintings in the famed Lascaux caves, which are about 18,000 years old. ***AP***

She's a chameleon

KNOWN for knack at changing the way she looks, pop star Madonna kicks-off the British leg of her 'Drowned World' tour with another new way of dressing. ***AP***

Cool Monkey

WAHOO! A wild monkey jumps into the water to cool off at a seaside monkey park in western Japan. A heat wave hovered over the Japanese Pacific coast two weeks ago with the highest temperature hitting 32 degrees Centigrade. ***AP***

Cosplay (from page 1)

For the AXN event, though, it was 21-year-old JM Chua as Saito Hajime of Samurai X who won the grand prize. The crowd went wild over his totally-Saito moves as he wielded his sword on-stage.

As part of his prize, JM will also get a chance to represent the Philippines in the AXN Hong Kong Anime Festival next week.

Of course, for the other costumed fans who joined, they were happy enough to just saunter on stage as a character they loved. Dressed as a character from Cooking Master Boy, 13-year-old Qara Clemente of St. Paul Pasig said she joined even though she knew she wasn't going to win.

Yelling above the happy woohoos of the crowd, she told us simply, "Cosplay is for fun!" And that, folks, is what it's really all about.

My First Cosplay

BY ADRIAN M. DY

"FANATICS," I thought to myself as the fifth Miaka I had seen in less than an hour walked by my friends and I. Who else would want to be dressed up as an anime character anyway?

When my friends invited me to the 2001 Cosplay Manila, I was a little nervous. Would I even fit in with all these *otakus* when my anime knowledge consisted mainly of Gundam Wing and Ghost Fighter? Maybe I didn't really fit in, but I have to admit I had a really fun time. There was a certain tingly energy in the air when I walked into the hall. I couldn't help but smile and point to the characters that I did recognize.

The feeling of "This is such a cool thing!" radiated from all the die-hard costumed fans. Within seconds I was definitely enjoying myself so much that my friends and I swore we would come back next year in costumes as well.

A live band played throughout the event and they most certainly rocked. The gang from Culture Crash was there along with a special issue #5.5. Other highlights included a trivia contest, free Artfarm lessons and an on-the-spot drawing contest where my friend came in fourth place.

Of course the event that was not to be missed (the whole point of the day actually) was the Official Catwalk event where the bedecked fans strutted their stuff.

It was followed by a bunch of hilarious skits, which included a catfight between Rinoa and the bow-wielding girl from Gatekeepers. There was also a musical act *ala* Spice Girls from a bunch of anime babes that included Belldandy, Misato and Raine from Gundam G.

It's safe to say that I had a blast and will definitely be there the next time around. So, if you see a guy in a bad fitting Tuxedo Mask costume with a limp rose in his hand next Cosplay, that's probably me.

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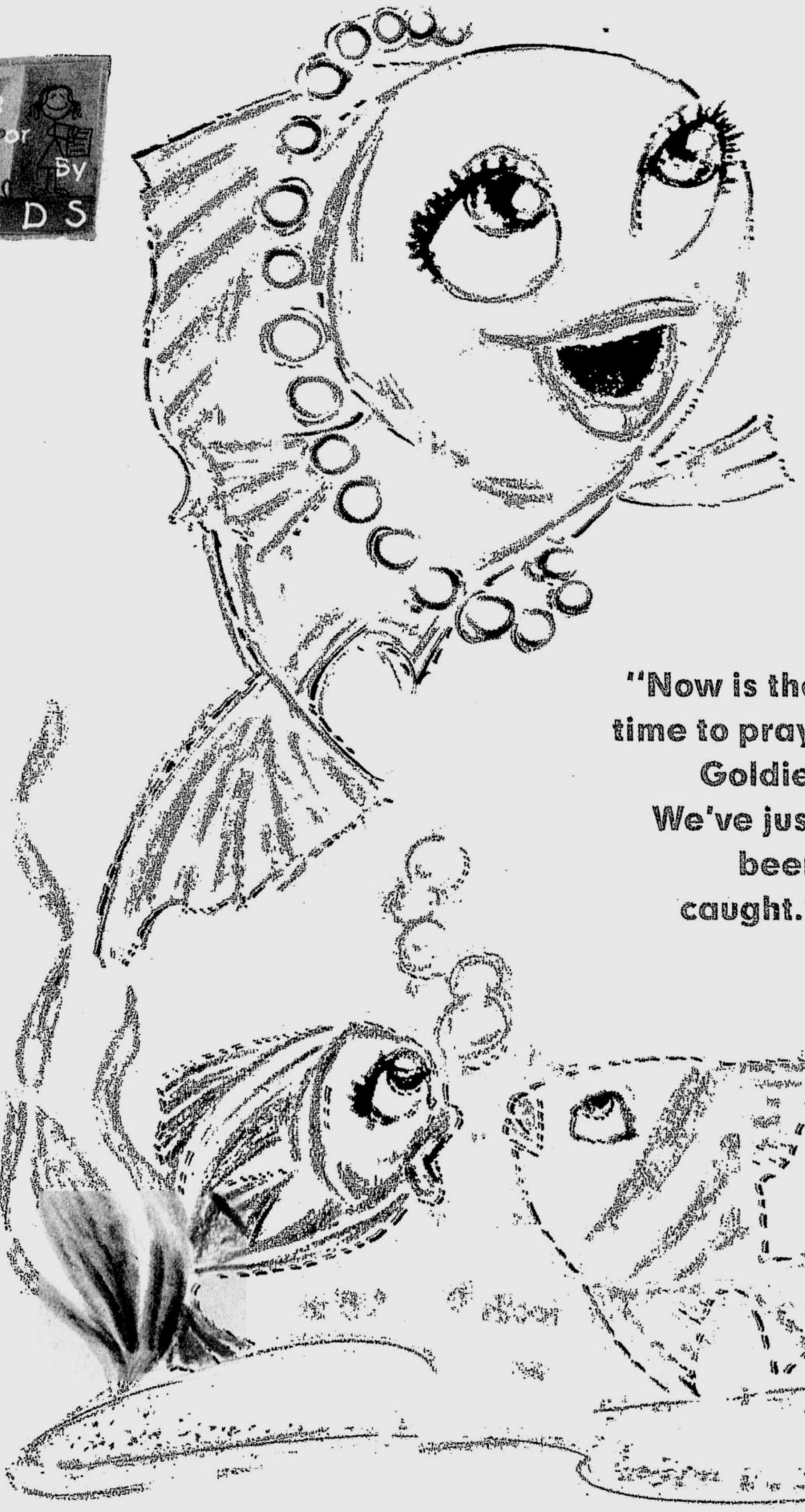

"Now is the time to pray, Goldie. We've just been caught."

Gold

She h

STORY BY ELEANOR E. YU
ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

GOLDIE LIVED in the Malayan Sea. There, she was sometimes called "the queen of beauty." She was indeed a beautiful fish. Her fins were colored gold and she swam very gracefully. He round eyes looked like two bright sapphires. Th other sea creatures envied her very much.

Unfortunately, Goldie was also a very vain fi She liked showing off and wore pearl necklaces s she would always be looked at.

One day, Goldie was swimming hither and thi was very bored. She didn't know what to do. H home was vast and deep, but she had lived here a and she had grown tired of seeing the same thin day.

"What's up Goldie?" said Plapla, the playful an fish.

"I am so sick and tired of living here, Plapla, said. "I wish I could live on land. Don't you e friends who had gone ahead of us. They must happy now, playing in the carnivals, eating in rest and watching movies."

"Hey, Goldie" Plapla said. "This sea is your hor a place for you. You're a fish!"

This irked Goldie, who was not very used to b with.

"Plapla's right Goldie," interrupted Angel. "The you is you are never satisfied with what you h very blessed to have this vast sea for a home."

"Goldie, fishes that reach land end up being s ket, fried in a pan, then, then...oh, it's too horrible said.

"Enough of this nonsense," Angel said. "I let's swim and look for something to eat."

After they had gone, Goldie,. now all by to brood again. "Plapla and Angel may be right, "This is my home. But I don't agree that I must sp life living here. I am sure there are a lot of exciting waiting for me on land. I'm beautiful and intelli and I really want to go places. Ah, there must b out of here. I'll find that soon."

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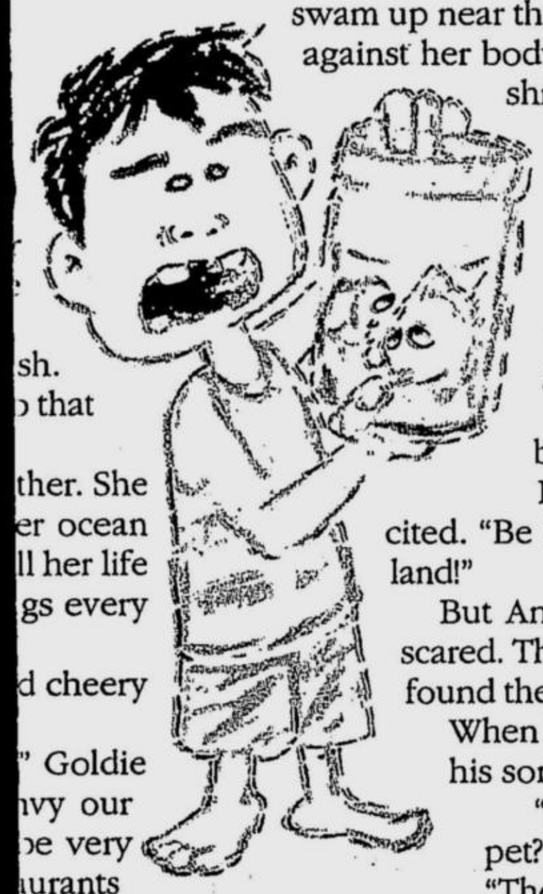
e, the Vain Fish

ad the vast sea for a home, but this fish just had to roam



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ONE CLEAR morning, Goldie was playing with her friends. She swam up near the surface to enjoy the whoosh of the cool water against her body. But then she heard a loud thud. There were shrill cries above her. When she looked up, a large net was poised above her. It fell on her and pulled her down until even her friends who were playing nearby were caught too.

"Oh, oh, ouch!" cried Goldie. Inside the net, they could hardly breathe. While struggling, Goldie turned around and found her friend, Angel, beside her.

"Now is the time to pray, Goldie. We've just been caught," Angel said anxiously.

Intead of being worried, Goldie was actually excited. "Be happy friends," she burbled. "Soon we'll be on land!"

But Angel was in tears and the other fish were very scared. The net was pulled up and soon enough, the fishes found themselves in another world.

When he got to the shore, Jose—the fisherman—asked his son Arvin to sort the fishes.

"Hey father, can I just keep these two for my pet?" asked Arvin as he picked Angel and Goldie. "They are beautiful, I don't want to sell them."

"All right son, you can keep them," his father said. Then he carried the two pails of catch to sell at the market.

ARVIN FOUND a large jar to use as an aquarium for Goldie and Angel. He loved his new pets! But after a few days Goldie's golden color had faded while Angel turned pale. The two became very sad in their small home. They did not like their food either.

"Angel, I want to get out of this jar," Goldie cried. "I cannot live here any longer. I want to go back to the sea."

"I feel the same way, Goldie. I don't like the food here. I don't think I we'll live if we stay here."

"Oh, please don't say that, Angel. You're scaring me!"

Arvin noticed that Goldie and Angel were becoming weaker. He hurried to his father to ask him what could be wrong with his pets.

"Maybe we can have them cooked tonight, son," Jose said. "Your Aunt Susan is dropping later. Mixed with some slices of tomatoes and onions, those fishes will make a perfect dinner."

Goldie and Angel paled even more when they heard this. Then they both cried.

"But father, I really don't want to eat them."

"Maybe they are better off with someone else, son. Let's just sell them in the market tomorrow."

THAT NIGHT, Goldie and Angel couldn't stop worrying. They were both very, very scared.

Arvin woke up early to go to the market with his father. He gave his pets more food and said, "Goodbye friends, I will miss you both."

Then he carried the jar to their small *banca* where his father was waiting. But along the journey, Arvin said, "I really love these fishes, father. I don't want to sell them. But I cannot also keep them because they might die in this bottle. Oh, what should I do?" cried Arvin as he hugged the jar close to him.

"I think son, it would be best if you just set them free and allow them to go back to the sea where they can survive and live happily," his father said. "They are meant to live in the deep, vast sea."

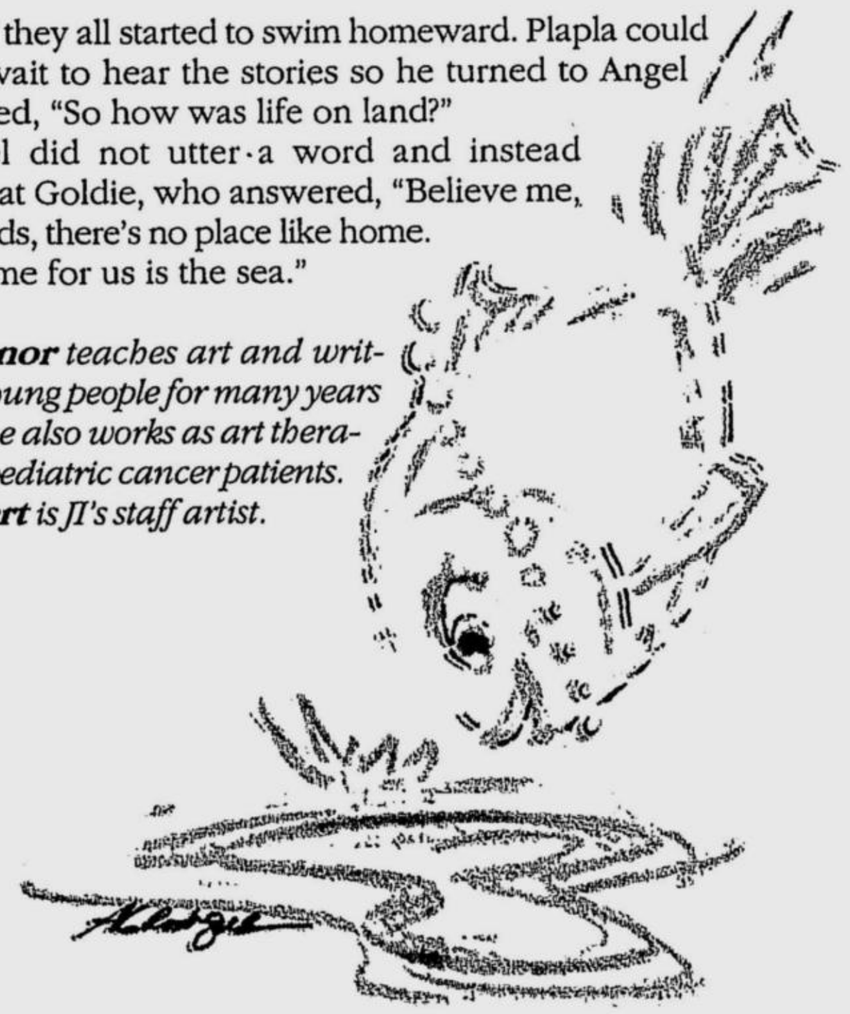
"I think you're right, father!" exclaimed Arvin. The boy took a last close look at Goldie and Angel and said, "Goodbye, my dear fishes. You need not cry anymore because I am releasing you. I'm sure you'll be happy to be back home and be with your friends." Then he lowered the jar onto the water and set his pets free.

Goldie and Angel swam excitedly back to their home. Along the way, they saw their friend, Plapla with some other fishes and shrimps and plants.

"Goldie and Angel! We missed you!" cried Plapla "We're so glad you're back! Come with us and tell us about your adventures."

Then they all started to swim homeward. Plapla could hardly wait to hear the stories so he turned to Angel and asked, "So how was life on land?"

Angel did not utter a word and instead winked at Goldie, who answered, "Believe me, my friends, there's no place like home. And home for us is the sea."



Eleanor *teaches art and writing to young people for many years now. She also works as art therapist for pediatric cancer patients.*

Albert *is JI's staff artist.*

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PHOTO BY ROMY HOMILLADA

Legends, Lore and Lester

If there's an eight-year-old expert on the fantastic, it's got to be Lester

"OKAY, you can ask me questions then I'll ask you questions. Did you think you were the only one doing an interview?"

Uh-oh, we thought, what on earth have we gotten ourselves into?

"My full name is Lester L. Parlade. I'm about eight years old," the little fellow said, "I'm studying at Genesis Montessori Learning Center. I'm in Grade 3."

As Lester paused to take a breath, we fired our first question: is it true that you like reading Bible stories?

"Yes, I do!" he promptly replied, "I like to read about Bible stories, about dinosaurs, reptiles..."

Lester mused, "Now I don't know where that reptile book went. Maybe it grew legs and crawled away."

Lester also likes to read about myths and legends. These books, he said, "make me learn more and give me more ideas to cook up in my head."

And what fantastic ideas they are indeed.

Here be dragons...

Upon leading us to his room, Lester presented an entire wall covered with dragons and other magical beasts. Each creature was an elaborate paper cut-out Lester made himself.

Like a wise, old professor, he revealed the creature's names and the story behind each one.

"This one's Big Head," he said, pointing to what looked like a huge slit-eyed face. "I only showed his head because the rest of him won't fit on the paper!"

"And this one here is the Old Monster from the West," he continued, "he was a cowboy before."

Showing us what looked like a group of masks, Lester explained, "Here are the Faces of Life. This is Horror. This one is Sorrow. This is Happiness and this is half sad and half love. It stands for loneliness."

He also introduced us to a dragon named Peter. "One time, he got hungry and he ate up a man named Peter," Lester narrated, "and then he didn't eat anybody else, so they named him after Peter."

Lester's best work yet, though, is a dragon with a long slender body, finely curved claws and an array of spines running from its head to its tail. Solemnly, he announced that it was the Emperor Sieldraegon.

"He's the king of all these creatures," he said.

The mummy within

On other days, Lester likes making figures from clay too. He has often impressed his family's guests with his clay replicas of Egyptian gods and King Tut's sarcophagus, complete with a mummy inside.

"Just don't awaken the ancient curse!" Lester warned us as we peeked at the 'dusty' mummy within.

Observing us, Lester noted, "I use (baby) powder to make the dust."

Where, we asked him finally, where does he get all his ideas? "God is the one who makes all these dreams for us," Lester answered, "everything is from God, even you!"

With that, Lester proceeded to interview us, just like he said he would. What we talked about, though, is our little secret. ***Christine C. Rivero***

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Junior Inquirer
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Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces cor.
Yague & Mascardo Sts.
1231 Makati City

Chosen nominees will be featured on this page and will get a free Junior Inquirer T-shirt!

Kid 'r'rrific
nomination form

I nominate: _____

Age: _____

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because:
(Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

She/he lives at

_____
_____
_____

and studies at

_____

Her/his contact number is:

_____

Sender's Name:

_____

Sender's Age & School:

_____, _____

Sender's Address:

_____
_____

Sender's Contact No.

_____

Straight from the Anime Director's Heart

Mahiro Maeda, anime artist and director, shares a dream with Pinoy fans

BY CHRISTINE C. RIVERO

YOU'D think the guy who worked on the original art for such anime series as Macross, Neon Genesis Evangelion and Vision of Escaflowne would be pretty stuck-up. But not Mahiro Maeda.

Maeda-san (Mr. Maeda in Japanese) smiled at fans and gamely made sketches for them during the recent AXN Anime Festival where he was the guest of honor. Upon being mobbed for his autograph, he said he felt "strange...but happy." That kind of thing doesn't happen to him in Japan, he explained. Back there, he doesn't even have a fan club.

When he was a kid, Maeda-san said, "I wanted to be a scientist; I wanted to study nature." But he also describes himself as an "indoor boy. Always drawing and drawing."

Later, in high school, he became interested in anime after watching a TV series called "Future Boy Conan." It was made by another popular Japanese animator, Hayao Miyazaki, who much later would become one of his mentors. He then decided to take up filmmaking in college.

"I carried around a camera but I probably loafed around more," he told us and laughed.

He kept on drawing too. Soon, friends and family encouraged him to show his work to producers. That's how he landed his first anime job, at the age of 22—doing illustrations, layout and key-frame animation for the Macross TV series.

Since then, he's worked on other popular series and even the animation for a few games and Japanese MTVs. Now 38 years old, Maeda-san is best known for his work as artist and director of "Blue Submarine No. 6," a trail-blazing full-length feature combining anime with computer-generated graphics.

Maeda-san knows what it means to follow a dream, especially the spiky-haired-big-bright-eyed kind.

"It will start with the support of your family," he says.

"Anything you want to do, especially while you are young, concentrate on it," Maeda-san adds, "(and) your feelings to be an artist, it should come from the heart always."

MAEDA-SAN made many anime fans smile during his recent visit to Manila. Bit of trivia: he also did original art for the Gatekeepers series.

Do you know a grown-up who

- is fun to be with
- has an exciting job
- keeps an amazing hobby
- is all of the above???

If you know a grown-up whom all kids will love, give him or her the stamp:

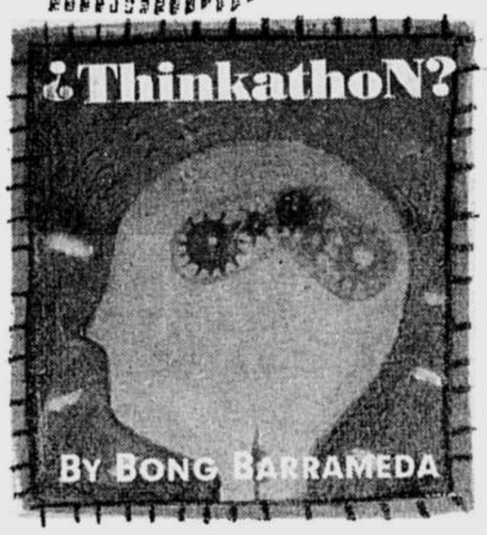
A.K.A. COOL

*Just fill out the nomination form below and tell us why your fave grown-up is the absolute coolest. If your nominee is chosen, **YOU'LL** get a free JI T-shirt! Now that's really cool.*

A.K.A. COOL
is an 'adult known as cool'
They're the folks
in our own family
Or the people
we meet in school

I nominate _____.
He/She is ____ years old and is my _____.
Here are five super solid reasons why I think you should write about him/her:
1) _____;
2) _____;
3) _____;
4) _____;
and
5) _____.

My nominee lives at _____
_____.
Give him/her a call at _____
_____ or send him/her an e-mail at _____.
By the way, I'm _____
_____.
I'm _____ years old.
My address is
_____.
You may call me at
_____.



Whiz Kids 2001-III

PUT your thinking caps on for a blast of brain-busters from the 2nd Quarterly Finals of the Digital LG Quiz (10:00-11:00 a.m., Sundays on GMA 7) ruled by Andrew John Lena of Manila Science High School. Can you draw even with 'Drew? (Unlike in the TV show, you're given a choice of possible answers here. Fair enough?)

1. **Famous People**
Name the Internet teenage hotshot who founded Napster.
A. Bill Gates
B. Shawn Fanning
C. Steve Jobs

2. **Geography**
What Venezuelan natural wonder is the world's highest waterfall with a drop of 3,200 feet?
A. Caracas Falls
B. Angel Falls
C. Palo Alto Falls

3. **Games**
What is considered as the most popular role-playing game of all time?
A. Dungeons and Dragons
B. Counter-Strike
C: Flight Simulator

4. **Information Technology**
In the jargon of the World Wide Web, what 'tasty' term describes a block of data generated by a Web site you have visited?
A. Cracker B. Byte C. Cookie

5. **Medicine**
Varicella is the technical name of what contagious and itchy viral disease that affects mainly children?
A. Chicken pox B. Measles C. German pox

6. **Entertainment**
Name the eye-catching actress who played the high-jumpin' high-tech rebel Trinity in the 1999 Hollywood blockbuster "The Ma trix."
A. Demi Moore
B. Carrie-Ann Moss
C. Angelina Jolie

7. **History**
Which American president—who popular ized the expression, 'The buck stops here' made the tough decision to drop an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945?
A. Dwight Eisenhower
B. Harry Truman
C. Franklin D. Roosevelt

8. **Words**
What name is given to a group of tigers, which describes the way they attack their prey?
A. Charge B. Ravage C. Ambush

9. **Science & Technology**
Introduced in 1974 by Micro Instrumentation Telemetry Systems, what small computer is considered as the world's first personal computer?
A. Apple B. Altair C. Pentium

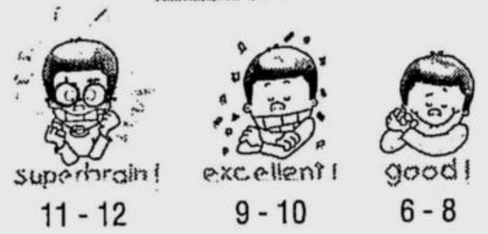
10. **Sports**
Name one of two strenuous events held in the so-called "beast's lair."
A. Wrestling C. Shooting
B. Shot put D. Hammer throw

11. **Math**
John and Jane, 28 kilometers apart, de cide to approach each other. If John's speed is 6 kph and Jane's speed is 8 kph, in how many hours will they meet?
A. One B. Two C. Three

12. **Philosophy**
What 20th-century philosophical move ment believes that individuals should take responsibility for their own actions and shape their own destinies because the Universe has no intrinsic meaning or purpose?
A. Individualism
B. Humanism
C. Existentialism

Answers:
1. Shawn Fanning
2. Angel Falls
3. Dungeons and Dragons
4. Cookie
5. Chicken pox
6. Carrie-Ann Moss
7. Harry Truman
8. Ambush
9. Altair
10. Shot put or Hammer throw
11. Two hours
12. Existentialism

Ratings :



11 - 12 9 - 10 6 - 8

A Not-So-Good (From page 2)

At first it came as a shock to me. But later on, I accepted the consequences of my irresponsibility and I'm very willing to start over.

My experience in that school might be all scary and tremendously awful but I would never let it get in the way of my recovery. I learned that experience is the best teacher we could ever have. It shouldn't put us down.

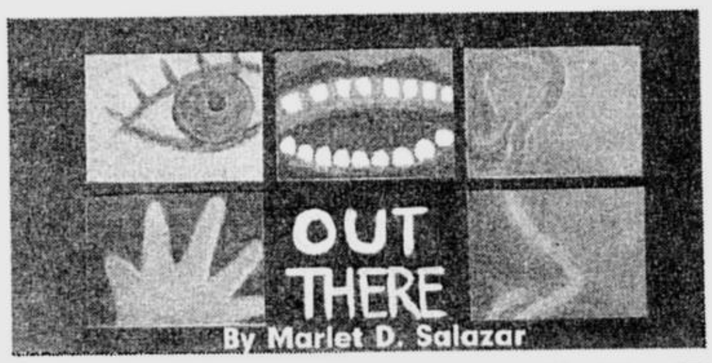
Instead, it should help us get back to our feet and inspire us to do better the second time around.

I also learned that if we fall or get hurt, we shouldn't stay on the ground crying like a baby. We should stand up and dust ourselves off and then try again. That's life. There are good times but then there are those not-so-good times. We just have to take it a step at a time. Agree?

Right now, I'm back in my old school and it's a fresh start. Now, wish me luck will you?

P.S.

To my former classmates, I will never ever forget you guys. We did have our misunderstandings but I already forgave you and I hope you did the same. Thanks for everything, bad and good, and enjoy your senior year! Love ya!



Got something for Out There?
Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax numbers are 897-4793 up to 94. Don't forget to include your contact numbers and addresses.

Movies

CATS & DOGS. It's the age-old battle between *Canis familiaris* and *Felis Silvestris*, but with gadgets that would put 007 to shame. Watch this funny but amazing movie about the war between cats and dogs. Quick! Watch "Cats & Dogs" when it opens in Metro Manila on Aug. 1.

Contests

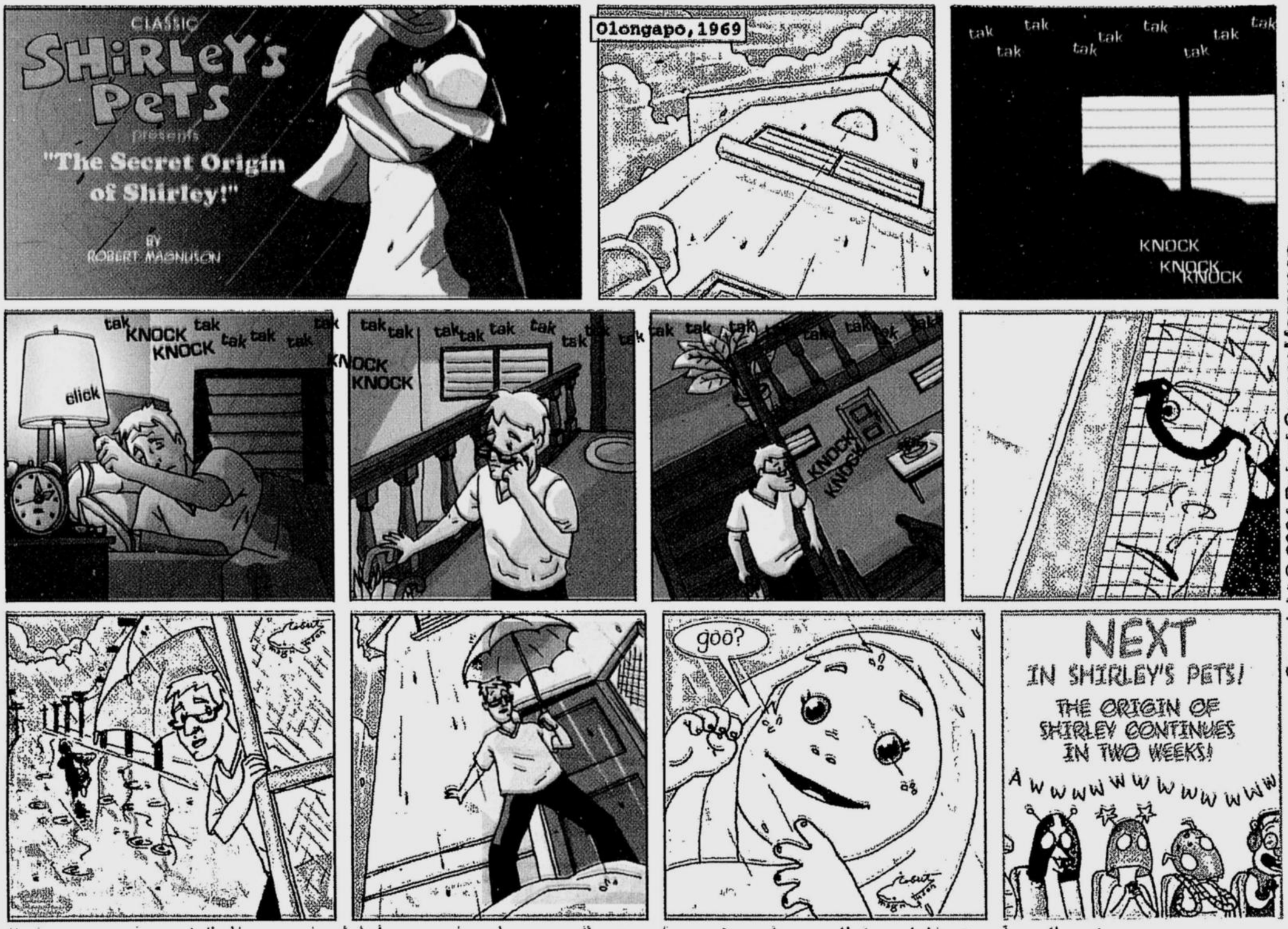
BE PART OF BATCH RTO. The search is on for the next Batch RTO! Do you value knowledge, true friendship, health and doing one's best? You could be one of the 10 young people chosen to promote these values. Batch RTO (Royal Tru-Orange) Search 2001 is open to all Filipinos from ages 12 to 16. Candidates should have varied interests, should enjoy discovering new things and should have a zest for life. Winners will experiece the Batch RTO Youth Camp, a 9-day eco-cultural tour from Baguio to Davao. They will be given pocket money worth P25,000. Whew! That's a lot! They will also be awarded a computer course at STI and will each receive a brand new computer. Wowa-wee! Get your application forms from Coca-cola plants, selected sales offices, Sky Cable offices and selected schools throughout the country. Just remember kids, the deadline is on Aug. 4.

Cable Picks

NOAH'S FLOOD. The oxygen-deprived waters of the Black Sea hold many mysteries. National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Dr. Robert Ballard leads his ninth expedition to look for proof that people were living here at the time of an ancient flood—which, according to a controversial theory, may have inspired stories of Noah's Flood. Catch the "Quest for Noah's Flood" on Sunday, July 29, 9 p.m. on the National Geographic Channel.

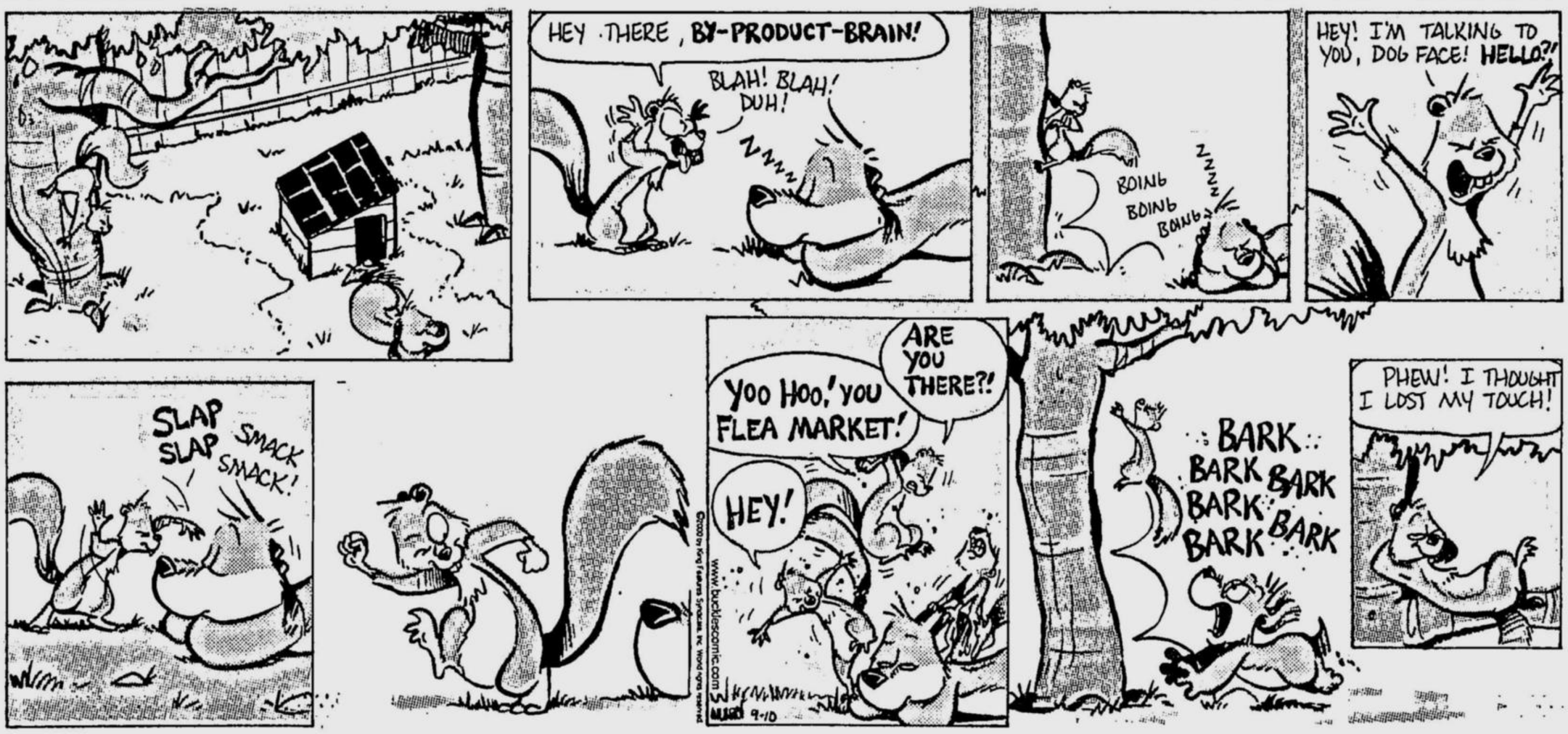
Check This Out

KIDDIE BOOK FAIR. Catch the last two days of the children's book fair at the Shangri-la Plaza Mall basement today and tomorrow. There will be lots of new books and you might meet you favorite authors there, too.



BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT



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CUT THIS AD

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NOTE: *Only original ads are considered as valid entries. Photocopies will be disqualified.

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8 suspected robbers killed in Port Area

STORY ON PAGE A14

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS
Sunday

JULY 22, 2001 ★ 66 PAGES 6 SECTIONS VOL. 16 NO. 224

The name's Hernando, not Hernani

BY C. YAMSUAN

A ROSE by any other name smells just as sweet, but a Hernando by any other name puts up a stink.

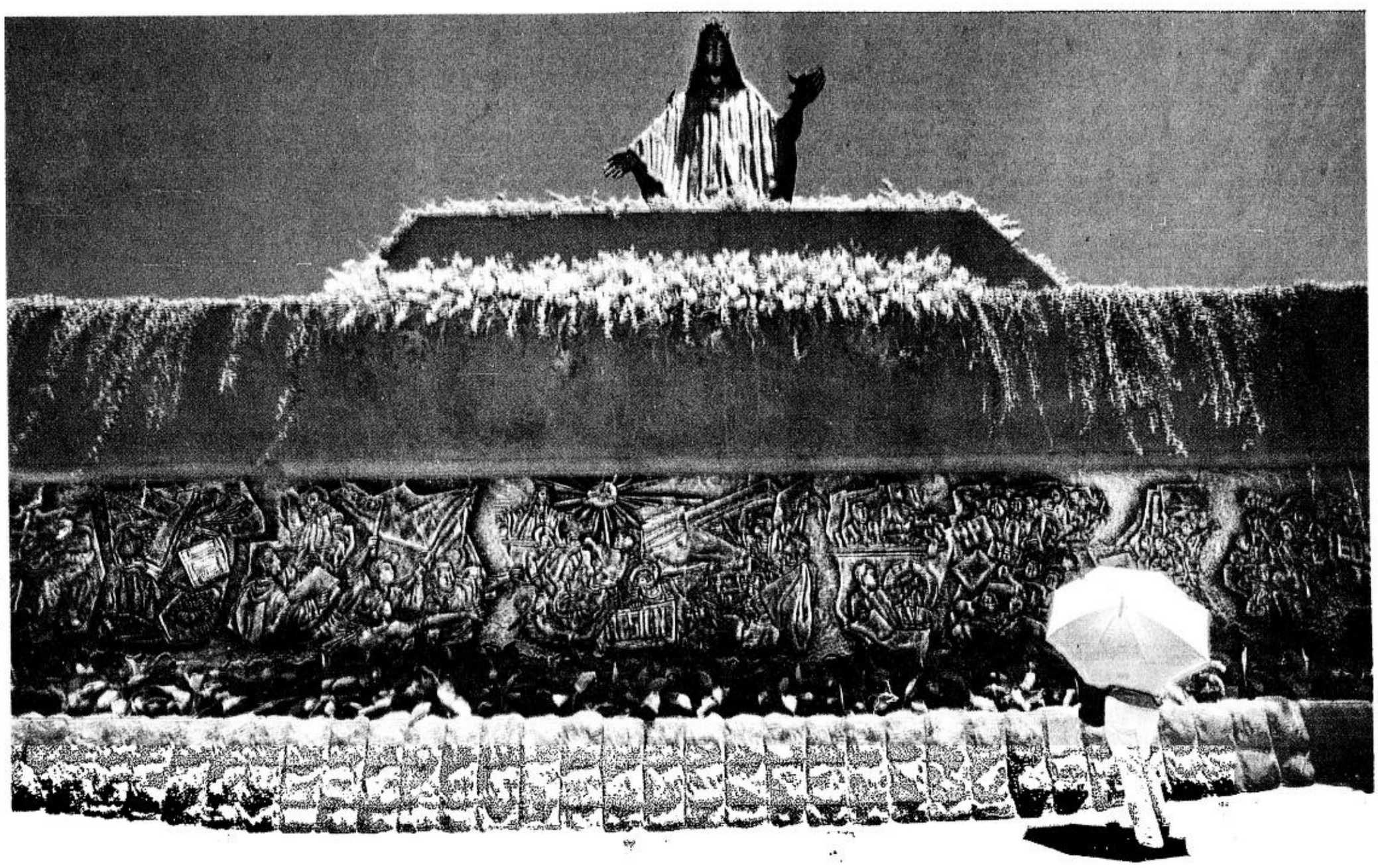
THE/ A14

IN *Sunday* LIFESTYLE
- Playtime with Dinky / E1
- Go-Chua nuptials: Fantasy and perfection, all for love / D1

PATRICK GO

INGRID CHUA

PPC unites in Senate


ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

ITSELF a monument to People Power I, the Edsa Shrine presided over by Our Lady of Peace celebrates People Power II in a bronze mural stretched across the shrine's façade. Unveiled Friday by President Macapagal on the 6th month anniversary of her ascension to power, the mural by artist Nemi Miranda depicts the events leading up to the non-violent people's revolt. Note the INQUIRER masthead (second panel, at left).

Drilon, Cayetano agree on power-sharing deal

BY ARMAND NOCUM

ASK Sen. Franklin Drilon and he'll say he's the one. Ask Sen. Edgardo Angara and he'll say Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. will keep his post.

Two major Senate blocs yesterday came out with conflicting statements on which of them would decide the 24-member chamber's new set of officers. But it looks like the People Power Coalition (PPC) has pulled its act together.

"We have finally come to terms on the thorny issues. We have the numbers and we will come out solid on Monday," Drilon of the PPC said in a press statement.

Sen. Loren Legarda confirmed Drilon's statement, saying the PPC had mustered a majority of 13 votes to elect Drilon to the top Senate post.

Legarda said the 13 PPC members and allies had ended their bickering and hammered out a power-sharing deal.

Under the deal, Drilon will preside over the Senate for 18 months after which Sen. Renato Cayetano will serve as Senate President during the last half of the chamber's three-year term.

Those who have signed up with the administration-backed coalition were Senators Drilon, Cayetano, Legarda,

PPC/ A14

Gloria's Sona: 30 pages long in 30 minutes

BY AIDA SEVILLA MENDOZA AND JULIET L. JAVELLANA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's State of the Nation Address will be short and sweet.

She has cut a first draft requiring three hours to deliver down to 30 pages, double-space, and only 30 minutes in delivery time.

"What will happen is that the applause bites would be removed," the President said in a roundtable interview with broadcasters in Malacañang, referring to the cues put in the draft Sona by a team of speechwriters.

"Never mind if there will be no applause. The most important thing is that people will clearly understand my vision," she said.

The overriding theme of the speech is the fight against poverty, the President told women in media over lunch yesterday at the Manila Hotel. "We have to win the war against poverty within the decade," she said.

She pointed out that there would be no peace and order problem if people were not so poor that criminal syndicates could hire so many hatchet men and couriers from among them.

The President said there were as many as eight versions of her first major policy speech, which she is scheduled to deliver at the House of Representatives in Quezon City at 4 p.m. tomorrow.

She said she would also talk about a "free enterprise system for the 21st century" as a way out of the economic crisis, the need to modernize agriculture "founded on social equity," and the "raising of moral standards."

The first seven pages of the speech will cover the introduction, framework and vision; the next seven pages, macro-economic concerns; three pages, agricultural modernization; six pages, her pro-poor programs; and four to six pages, the ending.

The President has been holding special Cabinet meetings for the past two weeks to craft her Sona.

All members of the Cabinet were involved in drafting the speech because, she said, it would have specific goals for each of them to accomplish in a year.

GLORIA'S/ A14

GMA to hold office at agri department

BY AIDA SEVILLA MENDOZA

AGRICULTURE Secretary Leonardo Montemayor may not know it yet, but he'll have powerful new company in his office after President Macapagal-Arroyo delivers her State of the Nation Address tomorrow.

"After the Sona, I'll start holding office in the DA (Department of Agriculture)," the President said, giving a scoop to selected women in media who had lunch with her yesterday at the Manila Hotel together with her women Cabinet members.

The move to the new office is in connection with her poverty alleviation program, where she is giving primary importance to the creation of one million new jobs.

GMA/ A14

JOAN BONDOC

TOO MANY ROMULOS
Suddenly, the President bursts out laughing when she realizes she's flanked by Romulos when Ricardo Romulo (third from right) takes his oath on Saturday at the Palace as member of the governance and advisory council. The others are Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo (extreme left) and Roberto Romulo.

Soap to star 'Gloria Labandera' for nat'l cleansing

BY VOLT CONTRERAS

IT WOULD be a "soap" opera in the literal sense, with a laundrywoman for a heroine, scrubbing her way through daily struggles and humble triumphs, in the process embodying squeaky-clean values and inspiring her family and community.

Watch out, Monica Brava! A civic group composed chiefly of President Macapagal-Arroyo's former schoolmates plans to launch a telenovela as part of its "Alerta Labandera" outreach and social program for urban poor working women.

Capitalizing on the President's mass-appealing moniker "Gloria Labandera," the group is testing marketing ploys to attract sponsors for a foundation established in 1998 when Ms Macapagal was vice president and secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

The Ginintuan at Makabayang Alay Foundation Inc., "GMA" Foundation for short, is headed by officers and trustees who are mostly close friends of Ms Macapagal from High School Class '64 of the Assumption College.

Alerta Labandera project spokesperson Chola Colayco Navarro said "negotiations" were going on between Ginintuan Foundation and potential corporate sponsors for the production of the envisioned TV soap.

The proposed telenovela would be "feel-good, values-oriented. A *labandera* will be the central figure, and the problems and issues of the community would revolve around her."

This Ginintuan Foundation brainchild, she added, was inspired by Ms

SOAP/ A14

Second FRONT PAGE

Abu crackdown continues, but...

ZAMBOANGA CITY—More Abu Sayyaf members and supporters have surrendered but the hunt for 21 American and Filipino hostages held by the extremist group has still come up with nothing, officials said yesterday.

Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling, the head of the Southern Command, said 10 more Abu Sayyaf members and supporters were due to surrender to him on Jolo island later yesterday.

Camiling told a press conference this would be in addition to 12 who surrendered on Friday. He added that more could hand themselves soon in as well.

The 12 were said to come from the forces of the Sulu-based Abu Sayyaf leader, Galib Andang, alias Commander Robot.

"They served as Robot's first-line defense forces. Now (Robot's forces) are crippled and our troops are already getting inside their camps in Talipao (town in Sulu)," Camiling said.

Isa Biao, one of the 12, said they were forced to surrender because they had nothing to eat.

Abandoned by Robot

"We want to go home to our families. We were abandoned by Robot," he said.

Camiling said the military would recommend amnesty for the 12 who surrendered.

The surrenders follow the launch last week of a crackdown on supporters of the bandit group in their strongholds around the southern islands and the nearby city of Zamboanga, Camiling said.

But the presidential adviser for Muslim Mindanao affairs warned yesterday that new armed groups could sprout in Basilan and Sulu if the allegedly warrantless arrests of suspected Abu Sayyaf supporters continue.

Parrouk Hussin, who is also the "foreign minister" of the Moro National Liberation Front, said Muslim civilians who angered by the indiscriminate arrests may not necessarily join the Abu Sayyaf but might form their own armed groups or join established groups like the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

"I don't know any adult man there who has no guns. They might group themselves and fight the government," Hussin told the Sulo Hotel press forum in Quezon City.

About 100 suspected Abu Sayyaf members and supporters have been arrested in Zamboanga and on the islands of Jolo and Basilan. At least 34 of them have been charged with criminal offenses.

Hiding, moving

However, Camiling said troops were still trying to pin down the main Abu Sayyaf band which is holding the 21 hostages in forested areas of Basilan, just a 30-minute boat ride from Zamboanga.

"They are hiding constantly, moving from one place to another," Camiling said, complaining that the rough terrain was slowing down his troops.

He said the last encounter between the military and the group holding the hostages was on July 18 but that the rebels managed to get away.

Meanwhile, an alleged close-in guard of Abu Sayyaf leader Khadaffy Janjalani was arrested in Zamboanga City on Friday. The suspect was identified as Abdullah Mud, allegedly an Abu Sayyaf sub-leader based in Basilan and a close-in security of Janjalani.

Mud, who is said to carry a P1 million reward for his arrest, was taken into custody as he arrived at the wharf from Basilan City.

Camiling also said they had received reports of foreigners training Moro rebels in the south to launch attacks in Manila in retaliation for the operations on Basilan.

Suicide groups

Police sources said the foreigners, possibly from Sudan, were reported to be training "suicide urban terrorist groups" for the attacks although Camiling said the military still had to verify the reports.

In Manila, President Macapagal-Arroyo said in a radio interview that she had allocated an additional P1 billion from the budget to modernize the country's police force to deal with the Abu Sayyaf and other security threats.

The President conceded that the country's image had been hurt by the failure to decisively deal with the Abu Sayyaf. The group has been kidnapping foreigners and Christians and holding them for ransom in the south for years, grabbing international headlines in the process.

She said she was working on both long-term and short-term solutions to the problem, remarking "like a patient, you give him an aspirin while you prepare for an operation."

The Abu Sayyaf snatched 36 Filipinos and three Americans in their latest kidnapping spree which began on May 27.

While some of the Filipinos were freed, reportedly for hefty ransoms, four Filipino hostages were killed.

The Abu Sayyaf also said they beheaded one American, Californian Guillermo Sobero, although his body has not been recovered. Meanwhile, the military has dismissed reports that the remaining captive from the earlier Sipadan kidnapping, Roland Ullah, had been killed by his Sulu-based captors.

Southern Command spokesperson Col. Danilo Servando yesterday said Ullah was "very much alive" and had communicated with his wife.

Servando said Ullah was still being held by the Abu Sayyaf. *Reports from Juli Alipala-Inot, Jonathan F. Ma and Alexander M. Young, PDI Mindanao Bureau, Philip C. Tubeza, Metro Manila, and AFP*

DAN'S CALL

President Macapagal-Arroyo welcomes former US Vice President Dan Quayle in Malacañang during the latter's courtesy call Friday night. Quayle is here on private business.

BUDGET PACKAGE

➢ Macau + HONG KONG	Daytrip Hongkong : 4 day/3nites Departure Date : July-August Blockings : July 27-30 / Aug. 3-6 Aug. 10-13/17-20/24-27/31-03 Sept		$219 $235 $255
➢ SINGA PORE	Departure Date : July-August Extension to Bangkok		$345 $100
➢ BANGKOK PROMO			$250
➢ KUALA LUMPUR	DEPARTURE DATE JULY EXTENSION TO BANGKOK		$485 $80
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THE PHILIPPINE PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

Warmest felicitations to the **Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc.** on its 17th Postgraduate Course and 13th Midyear Convention.

I congratulate the PPA for its vital efforts in promoting professional excellence among psychiatrists and in enhancing the mental health of our people. Your convention theme, "*De-stigmatization: Cutting the Gordian Knot,*" manifests your unwavering commitment to help society prevent and control mental diseases. I hope this important event will bring psychiatrists to a higher level of capability and effectiveness in caring for mentally troubled persons as well as in educating the public about mental diseases.

People with mental disease and behavioral problems must be given the necessary medical care and support so that they can recover and become healthy citizens capable of contributing their share to national development. The work of psychiatrists is vital in helping the mentally ill deal positively with their ailment and carry on with life the best way possible. I urge you to continue your noble dedication to promote health and enhance the quality of life of our people.

Our strategic partnership provides impetus and dynamism to our common pursuit of quality healthcare for all Filipinos. Let us work together in healing and rebuilding our nation towards greater peace, progress and prosperity.

MABUHAY!

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
President
Republic of the Philippines

Greetings!

It is with pride and honor to welcome all of you for another milestone of knowledge enrichment, empowerment and capacitation to the 17th Postgraduate Course and 13th Midyear Convention.

Our theme: "Mainstream Psychiatry in General Hospital Practice" and "De-stigmatization: Cutting the Gordian Knot," respectively are timely for us to reflect in order to face the influx of the changing needs and demands of the 21st Century. As estimated, five of the ten leading causes of disabilities worldwide are mental disorders.

As a result, we have prepared a wide range of topics to cater to everyone in the positive promotion of mental health and updates of the current advances of treatment. This will benefit our constituents and possibly help in the healing of our nation.

Our Fellowship awaits for a fun-filled activity to renew our ties and camaraderie.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our speakers, Board of Directors, Scientific and Organizing Committee, the different Committees, past Presidents and officers, colleagues, delegates from the different organizations, advocates of mental health, media, corporate partners, friends and guests from different walks of life of their invaluable support especially in our struggle against the bone crushing pain of stigma, and prejudice to our patients and profession.

With love and sincerity, I wish you all God's ray of Hope, in our mission to serve our fellowmen.

Mabuhay ang PPA!

Venus Serra-Arain, MD, FPPA, MHA
President
Philippine Psychiatric Association

Warmest greetings to the officers and members of the Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc. on its 17th Postgraduate Course and 13th Midyear Convention.

Our common vision of "Health for All" can only be realized with the participation and support of various stakeholders and partner agencies both in the government and non-government sectors. The provision of appropriate and adequate mental health services to the population remains as one of our country's health challenges.

The Department of Health enjoins your organization in increasing access to mental health services especially the underserved.

With this objective in mind, we hope to bring our country towards the realization of our common vision of a healthy and progressive nation.

Manuel M. Dayrit, M.D., MSc.
Secretary of Health

It is with a great sense of elation that I extend sincerest greetings of the Officers and Board of Governors of the Philippine Medical Association to the officers and members of the Philippine Psychiatric Association Inc., on its 13th Midyear Convention.

The PMA is very pleased to join you in welcoming the delegates and participants to this important convention. We are particularly pleased with the well-rounded program of activities on an all-encompassing theme, "De-stigmatization: Cutting the Gordian Knot". Topics like "...Schizophrenia is a Brain Disease!" "The Impaired Psychiatrist: A Cause for Concern?", "Psychiatrists and Family Physicians - Partners in Treatment", "Sexuality, Stigma and Mental Health Forum", to be lectured by an outstanding faculty, are only a few examples of the top rate fare that will surely elicit interest to the scientific sessions. We are optimistic that this convention will not only be an event but an eventful milestone in the history of the PPA.

We thank the PPA for this Midyear Convention as this can help propel our colleagues to the vanguard in addressing various threats to health, and in giving substance to the PMA call, "Doctors at the Forefront - A Challenge for Change".

Congratulations, and mabuhay ang Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc.

Gil C. Fernandez, M.D.
President
Philippine Medical Association

Welcome to our 17th Postgraduate Course and 13th Midyear Convention!

Stigma of Mental Illness is perceived to be the "Gordian Knot" of psychiatry, it being pervasive and difficult. The convention's theme, "De-stigmatization: Cutting the Gordian Knot" thus emphasizes the need to raise the consciousness of the general public to mental health issues. This convention offers us lectures and discussions to equip the general psychiatrist the tools, not only to care for the mentally ill but also to educate peers, family, friends and the general public about mental illness. Training and the partnership with family physicians play a major role in this activity. The midyear convention also encompasses topics thought too "stigmatized" to be discussed in the past, Sexuality, Climacteric and the Impaired Physician.

May you imbibe what we have prepared for you and help PPA do an "Alexander the Great," being bold, swift and innovative in de-stigmatizing anything "mental."

Dino SC. Peña, MD, FPPA
Vice President and Chairman,
Committee on Scientific
Activities and Conferences

Scientific Program

July 25, 2001, Pre-Convention Sessions

8:00 - 4:00 PM	**AstraZeneca** Research Workshop (by invitation) Isla II Ballroom
5:00 - 8:00 PM	Opening of Registration
6:00 - 9:00 PM	PFIZER Pre-Convention Dinner Symposium Isla III Ballroom *"CyberPsychiatry II"*

July 26, 2001, 17th Postgraduate Course

"Mainstream Psychiatry in General Hospital Practice"

Officers of the Day:	Fe A. Costales, MD, FPPA Maya Saranganí I. Diaz, MD, DPBP
7:00 AM	Registration
8:30 AM	Opening of Booth Exhibits (Isla I Ballroom)
9:00 AM	Opening Ceremonies (Isla II & III Ballrooms) *Master of Ceremonies:* Jocelyn Nieva Yatco-Bautista, MD, FPPA, FCAPPI *Invocation:* Michelene Escobar-Buot, MD, FPPA National Anthem PPA Hymn *Welcome Address:* Venus Serra-Arain, MD, FPPA, MHA *President, PPA 2001-2002* *Course Overview:* Dino SC. Peña, MD, FPPA *Overall Convention Chairman*
9:45 AM	Coffee Break
10:00 AM	*Dementia's Realm: Neurology or Psychiatry?*
11:00 AM	*Special Issues of the Terminally Ill Patient*
12:00 - 2:00 PM	NOVARTIS Lunch Symposium (Palawan Ballroom)* *Topic:* Strategies in Treatment-Resistant Schizophrenia
2:00 PM	*The Best Interest of the Child: Issues in Separation** UP Investment Portfolio Professorial Chair Lecture
3:15 PM	Coffee Break*
3:30 PM	*The Psychiatrist as an Expert Witness: Writing a Forensic Psychiatric Report**
4:45 PM	*Psychotherapeutic Interventions for Substance Abusers**
6:00 - 8:30 PM	WYETH Dinner Symposium (Isla II & III Ballrooms)
9:00 - 12:00 MN	Fellowship Night (cocktails, raffle and live band music) *Theme:* EDSA IV sa EDSA Shang: The PPA Take-Over *Attire:* Street-Clothes

July 27, 2001, 13th Midyear Convention

"De-stigmatization: Cutting the Gordian Knot"

Officers of the Day:	Tomas D. Bautista, MD Salvador Benjamin D. Vista, MD
7:30 AM	Registration
8:00 AM	*Master of Ceremonies:* Jocelyn Nieva Yatco-Bautista, MD, FPPA, FCAPPI *Venue:* Isla II & III Ballrooms *Invocation:* Michelene Escobar-Buot, MD, FPPA National Anthem PPA Hymn *Welcome Address/Convention Overview :* Dino SC. Peña, MD, FPPA *Overall Convention Chairman* *Introduction of Keynote Speaker:* Venus Serra-Arain, MD, FPPA, MHA *President, PPA 2001-2002* *Keynote Speaker:* Pureza Trinidad-Ofiate, MD, FPPA *Immediate Past President*
	"Psychiatric Stigma Throughout History"
9:15 AM	*Read My Lips: Schizophrenia is a Brain Disease!*
10:15 AM	Coffee Break
10:30 AM	*The Impaired Physician: Our Concern*
11:30 - 1:30 PM	**AstraZeneca** Lunch Symposium (Palawan Room) *Topic:* Two-Com: Communication - Our Foundation and Future
1:30 PM	Business Meeting (Palawan Room)
	Residents' Forum Revival Meeting (Mactan Room)
2:45 - 3:00 PM	Coffee Break
3:00 - 5:30 PM	*Psychiatry and Training Forum* *Venue:* Mactan room *Psychiatrists and Family Physicians - Partners in Treatment*** *Integrating Psychiatry in Family Physicians' Residency Training Program - UPCM Faculty Incentive Grant Lecture***
3:00 - 5:30 PM	*Sexuality, Stigma and Mental Health Forum*** *Venue:* Batanes Room *Climacteric: Values, Stigma and Mental Health*** *Male Sexuality and Stigma: Issues in Therapy*
5:30 PM	ELI LILLY Dinner Symposium (Isla II & III Ballrooms) *Topic: Awareness of Hyperglycemia and QTC Prolongation in Antipsychotic Therapy*
8:00 PM	Closing Ceremonies

* All sessions from 12:00 noon to 6:00 PM will be held at the Palawan Room.

** Parallel Sessions

Improvement without Impairment
Quetiapine Seroquel
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AstraZeneca
Thinking Ahead in CNS

Gloria unhappy with slow performers in Cabinet

BY J. L. JAVELLANA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo admitted yesterday she was not satisfied with the performance of some of the members of her Cabinet.

Other secretaries, on the other hand, have been measuring up to her standards.

"Well, I'm very happy, as you can see, I have mentioned my budget secretary (Emilia Boncodin) 10 times," the President told broadcasters in a roundtable interview yesterday.

There were some Cabinet officials, however, who have displeased her with their lackluster performance, she said, without naming names.

"There are some who are quite behind targets because I am very specific with my requirements. They have specific performance (objectives) but some are behind schedule," she said.

The President said she would give the "slow" performers time to make up before deciding whether to replace them.

Early this month, Ms Macapagal gave her Cabinet secretaries 12 months to produce results in their respective departments.

The President said she has already called the attention of the under-performing Cabinet secretaries.

She said she would probably submit their names last to the Commission on Appointments.

"Perhaps when it is time to submit names to the Commission on Appointments, I will submit their names last. I will give them time to perform; perhaps they will get the hint. If they (still) do not perform, I will not (submit their names to the CA)," she said.

She laughed when she revealed that she had called up the search committee and the people who had recommended the Cabinet secretaries to her.

"Hey, your pick is behind target. Are you happy with your choice?" she recalled asking the search committee headed by Presidential Management Staff chief Vicky Garchitorena.

"They probably talked (to the concerned officials) so they moved," she said of the PMS staff.

The President mentioned four Cabinet officials with whom she was satisfied—Boncodin, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho, Science and Technology Secretary Estrella Alabastro and Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit.

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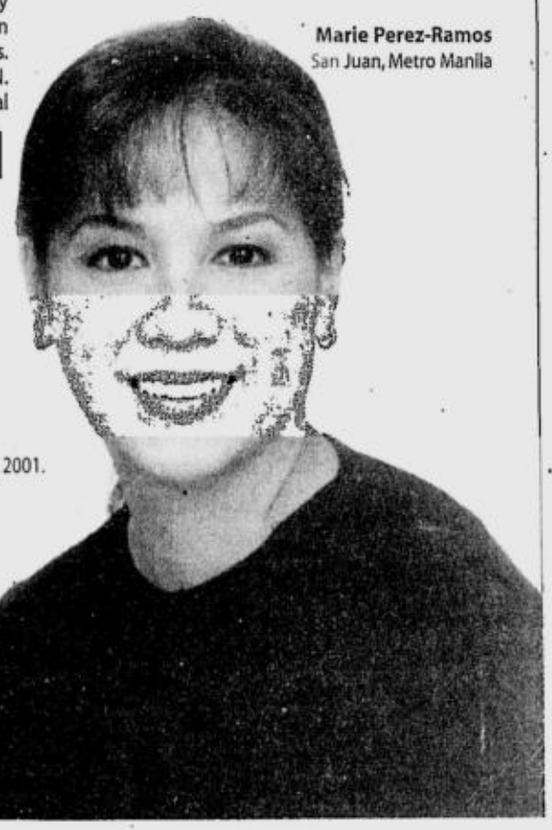
I am a profesional ballet teacher registered with the Royal Academy of Dance in London. Having a natural love and interest in education, I set up a preschool together with my sister. We studied the developmental and progressive approach to education which adheres to the practice of "play" as a way to educate young children in a fun and exciting way. However, I also felt the need to incorporate a more systematic approach to my children's academic development so that they can prepare to enter our schools here in the Philippines. That's when my search led me to KUMON. I was amazed because it dealt with the individual needs of my students. Every child was allowed to learn at their own pace. Best of all, the KUMON philosophy of practice, perseverance and discipline has always been the same belief I share with all my students.
I am very happy because I have seen the difference it has made in my children. I encourage you to try and see the difference for yourself!
Marie Perez-Ramos
San Juan, Metro Manila

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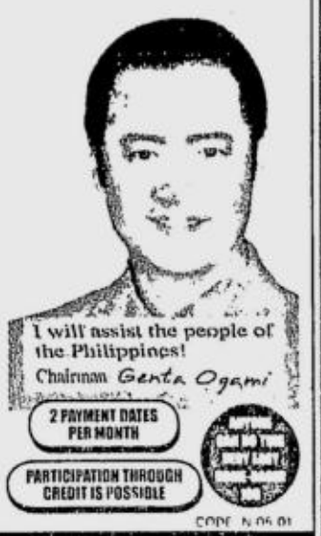
WHAT TO DO: While staying at home, working twice a month for about 30 minutes on each occasion, you only have to select a product from the catalog which will be sent to you. The selected product will be advertised in mail-order shopping programs on T.V. or in newspapers, magazines and internet.

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DAR secretary padding figures, farmers claim

BY C. D. BALANA

A GROUP of sugarlands tenant-farmers has accused Agrarian Reform Secretary Hernani Braganza of "padding" the figures in his department's accomplishment report to deceive the President.

Task Force Mapalad-Negros Occidental (TFM Negros), a group of 5,000 farmer-peasants pushing for genuine land reform, warned President Macapagal-Arroyo against taking Braganza's word "hook, line and sinker," specifically with regard to his claim that the Department of Agrarian Reform has distributed 70,000 hectares to landless farmers nationwide as of June.

The task force said the figures were "bloated."

"We fear Braganza is misleading the President to cover up his dismal performance and obvious incompetence since he took over in February." said Maribel Arias, lawyer for TFM Negros, whose members work in 105 haciendas totaling 10,000 hectares in Negros Occidental.

Reports had quoted the President as chiding the media for not reporting her administration's accomplishments but dwelling instead on negative reports about the government.

The President had complained about Braganza's "unreported accomplishments" such as the distribution to landless farmers of the 70,000 hectares.

Arias countered, however, that Braganza's accomplishment was "impossible and unrealistic" because it would mean he was able to distribute 50,000 hectares in 30 days.

This even surpassed the distribution rates in the Aquino and Ramos administrations, she said.

The task force said DAR records showed that as of May 31, 20,051 hectares, or 20 percent of this year's target of 101,318 hectares, had been distributed nationwide. Each month an average of 4,000 hectares was distributed to farmers, the records showed.

Arias said the President's statement meant Braganza was able to distribute 50,000 hectares in just the month of June alone.

"We have a new Superman in Braganza if he is telling the truth," said Arias.

The government has targeted the distribution of 100,000 hectares yearly, or a total of 300,000 hectares before the President's term ends in 2004.

Agrarian reform advocates, however, have criticized the target as the lowest since the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program was initiated in 1988.

DAR records showed the Aquino administration distributed an annual average of 135,000 hectares; the Ramos government, 315,000 hectares, and the short-lived Estrada administration, more than 100,000 hectares per year.

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

EN BANC

A.M. No. 01-7-01-SC. -

Re: Rules on Electronic Evidence.

RESOLUTION

Acting on the Memorandum dated 18 June 2001 of the Committee on the Revision of the Rules of Court to Draft the Rules on E-Commerce Law [R.A. No. 8792] submitting the Rules on Electronic Evidence for this Court's consideration and approval, the Court Resolved to APPROVE the same.

The Rules on Electronic Evidence shall apply to cases pending after their effectivity. These Rules shall take effect on the first day of August 2001 following their publication before the 20th of July in two newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

17th July 2001.

HILARIO G. DAVIDE, JR.
Chief Justice

JOSUE N. BELLOSILLO
Associate Justice

JOSE A.R. MELO
Associate Justice

REYNATO S. PUNO
Associate Justice

JOSE C. VITUG
Associate Justice

SANTIAGO M. KAPUNAN
Associate Justice

VICENTE V. MENDOZA
Associate Justice

ARTEMIO V. PANGANIBAN
Associate Justice

(out of town on official business)
LEONARDO A. QUISUMBING
Associate Justice

BERNARDO P. PARDO
Associate Justice

ARTURO B. BUENA
Associate Justice

MINERVA P. GONZAGA-REYES
Associate Justice

CONSUELO YNARES-SANTIAGO
Associate Justice

SABINO R. DE LEON, JR.
Associate Justice

(on leave)
ANGELINA SANDOVAL-GUTIERREZ
Associate Justice

RULES ON ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE

RULE 1
COVERAGE

SECTION 1. ***Scope.*** – Unless otherwise provided herein, these Rules shall apply whenever an electronic document or electronic data message, as defined in Rule 2 hereof, is offered or used in evidence.

SECTION 2. ***Cases covered.*** – These Rules shall apply to all civil actions and proceedings, as well as quasi-judicial and administrative cases.

SECTION 3. ***Application of other rules on evidence.*** – In all matters not specifically covered by these Rules, the Rules of Court and pertinent provisions of statutes containing rules on evidence shall apply.

RULE 2
DEFINITION OF TERMS AND CONSTRUCTION

SECTION 1. ***Definition of Terms.*** – For purposes of these Rules, the following terms are defined, as follows:

(a) "Asymmetric or public cryptosystem" means a system capable of generating a secure key pair, consisting of a private key for creating a digital signature, and a public key for verifying the digital signature.

(b) "Business records " include records of any business, institution, association, profession, occupation, and calling of every kind, whether or not conducted for profit, or for legitimate or illegitimate purposes.

(c) "Certificate" means an electronic document issued to support a digital signature which purports to confirm the identity or other significant characteristics of the person who holds a particular key pair.

(d) "Computer" refers to any single or interconnected device or apparatus, which, by electronic, electro-mechanical or magnetic impulse, or by other means with the same function, can receive, record, transmit, store, process, correlate, analyze, project, retrieve and/or produce information, data, text, graphics, figures, voice, video, symbols or other modes of expression or perform any one or more of these functions.

(e) "Digital Signature" refers to an electronic signature consisting of a transformation of an electronic document or an electronic data message using an asymmetric or public cryptosystem such that a person having the initial untransformed electronic document and the signer's public key can accurately determine:

(i) whether the transformation was created using the private key that corresponds to the signer's public key; and,

(ii) whether the initial electronic document had been altered after the transformation was made.

(f) "Digitally signed" refers to an electronic document or electronic data message bearing a digital signature verified by the public key listed in a certificate.

(g) "Electronic data message" refers to information generated, sent, received or stored by electronic, optical or similar means.

(h) "Electronic document" refers to information or the representation of information, data, figures, symbols or other modes of written expression, described or however represented, by which a right is established or an obligation extinguished, or by which a fact may be proved and affirmed, which is received, recorded, transmitted, stored, processed, retrieved or produced electronically. It includes digitally signed documents and any print-out or output, readable by sight or other means, which accurately reflects the electronic data message or electronic document. For purposes of these Rules, the term "electronic document" may be used interchangeably with "electronic data message".

(i) "Electronic key" refers to a secret code which secures and defends sensitive information that crosses over public channels into a form decipherable only with a matching electronic key.

(j) "Electronic signature" refers to any distinctive mark, characteristic and/or sound in electronic form, representing the identity of a person and attached to or logically associated with the electronic data message or electronic document or any methodology or procedure employed or adopted by a person and executed or adopted by such person with the intention of authenticating, signing or approving an electronic data message or electronic document. For purposes of these Rules, an electronic signature includes digital signatures.

(k) "Ephemeral electronic communication" refers to telephone conversations, text messages, chatroom sessions, streaming audio, streaming video, and other electronic forms of communication the evidence of which is not recorded or retained.

(l) "Information and Communication System" refers to a system for generating, sending, receiving, storing or otherwise processing electronic data messages or electronic documents and includes the computer system or other similar devices by or in which data are recorded or stored and any procedure related to the recording or storage of electronic data messages or electronic documents.

(m) "Key Pair" in an asymmetric cryptosystem refers to the private key and its mathematically related public key such that the latter can verify the digital signature that the former creates.

(n) "Private Key" refers to the key of a key pair used to create a digital signature.

(o) "Public Key" refers to the key of a key pair used to verify a digital signature.

SECTION 2. ***Construction.*** – These Rules shall be liberally construed to assist the parties in obtaining a just, expeditious, and inexpensive determination of cases.

The interpretation of these Rules shall also take into consideration the international origin of Republic Act No. 8792, otherwise known as the Electronic Commerce Act.

RULE 3
ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

SECTION 1. ***Electronic Documents as functional equivalent of paper-based documents.*** – Whenever a rule of evidence refers to the term writing, document, record, instrument, memorandum or any other form of writing, such term shall be deemed to include an electronic document as defined in these Rules.

SECTION 2. ***Admissibility.*** – An electronic document is admissible in evidence if it complies with the rules on admissibility prescribed by the Rules of Court and related laws and is authenticated in the manner prescribed by these Rules.

SECTION 3. ***Privileged communication.*** – The confidential character of a privileged communication is not lost solely on the ground that it is in the form of an electronic document.

RULE 4
BEST EVIDENCE RULE

SECTION 1. ***Original of an Electronic Document.*** – An electronic document shall be regarded as the equivalent of an original document under the Best Evidence Rule if it is a printout or output readable by sight or other means, shown to reflect the data accurately.

SECTION 2. ***Copies as equivalent of the originals.*** – When a document is in two or more copies executed at or about the same time with identical contents, or is a counterpart produced by the same impression as the original, or from the same matrix, or by mechanical or electronic re-recording, or by chemical reproduction, or by other equivalent techniques which accurately reproduces the original, such copies or duplicates shall be regarded as the equivalent of the original.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, copies or duplicates shall not be admissible to the same extent as the original if:

(a) a genuine question is raised as to the authenticity of the original; or

(b) in the circumstances it would be unjust or inequitable to admit the copy in lieu of the original.

RULE 5
AUTHENTICATION OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

SECTION 1. ***Burden of proving authenticity.*** – The person seeking to introduce an electronic document in any legal proceeding has the burden of proving its authenticity in the manner provided in this Rule.

SECTION 2. ***Manner of authentication.*** – Before any private electronic document offered as authentic is received in evidence, its authenticity must be proved by any of the following means:

(a) by evidence that it had been digitally signed by the person purported to have signed the same;

(b) by evidence that other appropriate security procedures or devices as may be authorized by the Supreme Court or by law for authentication of electronic documents were applied to the document; or

(c) by other evidence showing its integrity and reliability to the satisfaction of the judge.

SECTION 3. ***Proof of electronically notarized document.*** – A document electronically notarized in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Supreme Court shall be considered as a public document and proved as a notarial document under the Rules of Court.

RULE 6
ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

SECTION 1. ***Electronic signature.*** – An electronic signature or a digital signature authenticated in the manner prescribed hereunder is admissible in evidence as the functional equivalent of the signature of a person on a written document.

SECTION 2. ***Authentication of electronic signatures.*** – An electronic signature may be authenticated in any of the following manner:

(a) By evidence that a method or process was utilized to establish a digital signature and verify the same;

(b) By any other means provided by law; or

(c) By any other means satisfactory to the judge as establishing the genuineness of the electronic signature.

SECTION 3. ***Disputable presumptions relating to electronic signatures.*** – Upon the authentication of an electronic signature, it shall be presumed that:

(a) The electronic signature is that of the person to whom it correlates;

(b) The electronic signature was affixed by that person with the intention of authenticating or approving the electronic document to which it is related or to indicate such person's consent to the transaction embodied therein; and

(c) The methods or processes utilized to affix or verify the electronic signature operated without error or fault.

SECTION 4. ***Disputable presumptions relating to digital signatures.*** – Upon the authentication of a digital signature, it shall be presumed, in addition to those mentioned in the immediately preceding section, that:

(a) The information contained in a certificate is correct;

(b) The digital signature was created during the operational period of a certificate;

(c) No cause exists to render a certificate invalid or revocable;

(d) The message associated with a digital signature has not been altered from the time it was signed; and,

(e) A certificate had been issued by the certification authority indicated therein.

RULE 7
EVIDENTIARY WEIGHT OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

SECTION 1. ***Factors for assessing evidentiary weight.*** – In assessing the evidentiary weight of an electronic document, the following factors may be considered:

(a) The reliability of the manner or method in which it was generated, stored or communicated, including but not limited to input and output procedures, controls, tests and checks for accuracy and reliability of the electronic data message or document, in the light of all the circumstances as well as any relevant agreement;

(b) The reliability of the manner in which its originator was identified;

(c) The integrity of the information and communication system in which it is recorded or stored, including but not limited to the hardware and computer programs or software used as well as programming errors;

(d) The familiarity of the witness or the person who made the entry with the communication and information system;

(e) The nature and quality of the information which went into the communication and information system upon which the electronic data message or electronic document was based; or

(f) Other factors which the court may consider as affecting the accuracy or integrity of the electronic document or electronic data message.

SECTION 2. ***Integrity of an information and communication system.*** – In any dispute involving the integrity of the information and communication system in which an electronic document or electronic data message is recorded or stored, the court may consider, among others, the following factors:

(a) Whether the information and communication system or other similar device was operated in a manner that did not affect the integrity of the electronic document, and there are no other reasonable grounds to doubt the integrity of the information and communication system;

(b) Whether the electronic document was recorded or stored by a party to the proceedings with interest adverse to that of the party using it; or

(c) Whether the electronic document was recorded or stored in the usual and ordinary course of business by a person who is not a party to the proceedings and who did not act under the control of the party using it.

RULE 8
BUSINESS RECORDS AS EXCEPTION TO THE HEARSAY RULE

SECTION 1. ***Inapplicability of the hearsay rule.*** – A memorandum, report, record or data compilation of acts, events, conditions, opinions, or diagnoses, made by electronic, optical or other similar means at or near the time of or from transmission or supply of information by a person with knowledge thereof, and kept in the regular course or conduct of a business activity, and such was the regular practice to make the memorandum, report, record, or data compilation by electronic, optical or similar means, all of which are shown by the testimony of the custodian or other qualified witnesses, is excepted from the rule on hearsay evidence.

SECTION 2. ***Overcoming the presumption.*** – The presumption provided for in Section 1 of this Rule may be overcome by evidence of the untrustworthiness of the source of information or the method or circumstances of the preparation, transmission or storage thereof.

RULE 9
METHOD OF PROOF

SECTION 1. ***Affidavit evidence.*** – All matters relating to the admissibility and evidentiary weight of an electronic document may be established by an affidavit stating facts of direct personal knowledge of the affiant or based on authentic records. The affidavit must affirmatively show the competence of the affiant to testify on the matters contained therein.

SECTION 2. ***Cross-examination of deponent.*** – The affiant shall be made to affirm the contents of the affidavit in open court and may be cross-examined as a matter of right by the adverse party.

RULE 10
EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

SECTION 1. ***Electronic testimony.*** – After summarily hearing the parties pursuant to Rule 9 of these Rules, the court may authorize the presentation of testimonial evidence by electronic means. Before so authorizing, the court shall determine the necessity for such presentation and prescribe terms and conditions as may be necessary under the circumstances, including the protection of the rights of the parties and witnesses concerned.

SECTION 2. ***Transcript of electronic testimony.*** – When examination of a witness is done electronically, the entire proceedings, including the questions and answers, shall be transcribed by a stenographer, stenotypist or other recorder authorized for the purpose, who shall certify as correct the transcript done by him. The transcript should reflect the fact that the proceedings, either in whole or in part, had been electronically recorded.

SECTION 3. ***Storage of electronic evidence.*** – The electronic evidence and recording thereof as well as the stenographic notes shall form part of the record of the case. Such transcript and recording shall be deemed prima facie evidence of such proceedings.

RULE 11
AUDIO, PHOTOGRAPHIC, VIDEO, AND EPHEMERAL EVIDENCE

SECTION 1. ***Audio, video and similar evidence.*** – Audio, photographic and video evidence of events, acts or transactions shall be admissible provided it shall be shown, presented or displayed to the court and shall be identified, explained or authenticated by the person who made the recording or by some other person competent to testify on the accuracy thereof.

SECTION 2. ***Ephemeral electronic communications.*** – Ephemeral electronic communications shall be proven by the testimony of a person who was a party to the same or has personal knowledge thereof. In the absence or unavailability of such witnesses, other competent evidence may be admitted.

A recording of the telephone conversation or ephemeral electronic communication shall be covered by the immediately preceding section.

If the foregoing communications are recorded or embodied in an electronic document, then the provisions of Rule 5 shall apply.

RULE 12
EFFECTIVITY

SECTION 1. ***Applicability to pending cases.*** – These Rules shall apply to cases pending after their effectivity.

SECTION 2. ***Effectivity.*** – These Rules shall take effect on the first day of August 2001 following their publication before the 20th of July 2001 in two newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Senate to probe Mike

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM

THE SENATE will investigate the claim of a former appointments secretary of the President that First Gentleman Mike Arroyo received a bribe to work for the recall of a vetoed telecommunications franchise.

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said yesterday the upper chamber will ask Bing Rodrigo to reveal what she knows about the deal in which Arroyo and three others were alleged to have taken a bribe in exchange for trying to overturn the veto for a telecommunications franchise for a firm purportedly owned by a crony of deposed President Joseph Estrada.

Rodrigo is the daughter of former Sen. Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo and is a close friend of Ms Macapagal, having been her classmate through grade and high school.

She resigned abruptly after she herself was reportedly accused of taking a bribe and failing to deliver the franchise.

"We will look into it. There are no sacred cows with the Senate. We must investigate those who must be investigated," Pimentel said.

At the same time, the chair of the Senate blue ribbon committee said, they will look into the claim made by Arroyo last week that Estrada had paid some military generals to destabilize the Macapagal government.

The First Gentleman did not elaborate and he did not name the officers concerned.

Pimentel was quick to add that a probe of Arroyo did not mean the senators automatically believed Rodrigo's claim.

"It would depend on the evidence," he said.

Rodrigo had claimed the failure of Arroyo's group, whom she did not identify, to cause the overturn of the veto was blamed on her, even though she had nothing to do with the deal.

Pimentel, over his regular radio program on dzXL, said it appears the First Gentleman has lately become a "lightning rod" for his wife, the President.

Coup: Gloria doesn't trust Erap

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said that her ousted predecessor Joseph Estrada sent assurances that he was not behind any destabilization plot against her 6-month-old administration.

The President said Estrada, now detained pending trial for plunder, conveyed his assurance through Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal and a banker whom she did not name.

But the President hinted she was not fully convinced.

"I hope it's true," she said in a roundtable interview with broadcasters yesterday.

The President was defending a statement made last week by First Gentleman Mike Arroyo that Estrada was behind a plot to destabilize her administration.

The President's outspoken husband said Estrada even summoned a general to coordinate the plot.

"You said that, I did not," she said when a broadcaster referred to the unnamed pro-Estrada general.

"He is giving information that he knows about," the President said when asked during her press conference last Friday about her husband's disclosure.

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After the Spice Boys come the Sunshine Kids

BY R. NAZARENO

IN THE LAST Congress, they were called the Spice Boys.

Come Monday when the 12th Congress opens, the House of Representatives welcomes a fresh batch of representatives to add to the growing number of young solons who are mostly in their mid-20s.

"You can call them the Sunshine Boys and Girls of the 12th Congress," said Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri, who was himself a Spice Boy as a neophyte congressman.

There are more than 30 first-termers in this Congress, aged between 26 to 35 years old, all of whom support the so-called "Sunshine Coalition" forged by incoming Speaker Jose de Venecia.

The youngest is Camarines Sur Rep. Felix William Fuentebella who ran for the old seat of his father, former Speaker Arnulfo Fuentebella. He is only 26 years old.

Th next youngest solon is 27-year-old Sherwin Gatchalian, the son of plastics magnate William Gatchalian, who ran in the newly created second district of Valenzuela.

A few months older than Gatchalian is the diminutive Darlene Custodio, daughter of former South Cotabato Rep. Lualhati Antonino, who looks more like a teener than a 27-year-old mother.

"You can call it *tito-tita* (aunt and uncle) politics," noted Zubiri.

This apparently is how the young representatives address the older solons, most of whom were colleagues of their parents.

"That term of endearment bridges whatever age gap exists. It is both out of respect and appreciation for them for accepting us as their peers," Zubiri said.

Housing Secretary Michael Defensor, the former representative for Quezon City, still holds the record for being the youngest elected congressman at 25 years old in 1995.

"Study, study, study," Defensor, now 32, advised the young neophytes, among whom is his own sister who won his old congressional seat.

The 30-year-old Maite Defensor beat former senator Anna Dominique Coseteng in her first-ever foray into politics.

De Venecia is very upbeat at heading what is probably the youngest House membership for the next three years.

"I've worked with four generations of lawmakers," De Venecia said.

And he said he really did not mind being called "Tito Joe" by his young wards.

"Consider me as Yoda, the mentor of the Jedi knights," De Venecia said. "We will guide these young congressmen at the House."

As for the former Spice Boys who are back as second-termers, they act like big brothers to the neophytes.

"But please, don't call us *tito*, maybe *kuya* (older brother) will do," said Surigao del Norte Rep. Robert Ace Barbers, another Spice Boy who was only 27 when he first came to Congress in 1998.

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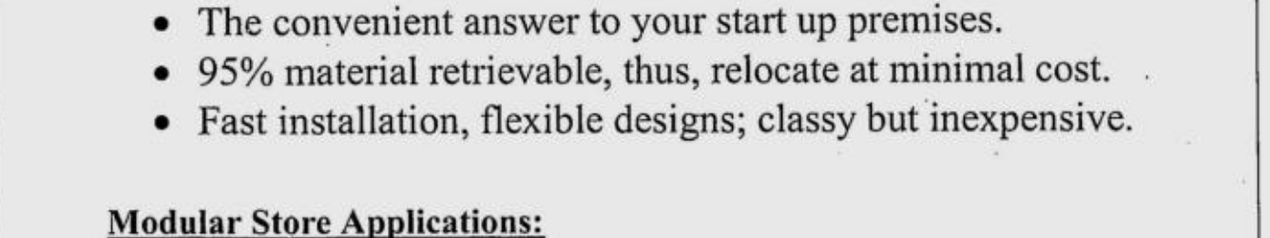
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Living wage

THE ARGUMENTS for legislating a P125 across-the-board wage increase are compelling, but ultimately they are not convincing.

There is no quarrel with the need to augment the average worker's take-home income; would that we all went home with just a little more money in our pocket. The problem lies in demanding that the government, through a new law, offer a solution that won't solve anything but only end up throwing workers out of work.

EDITORIALS

There is no doubt that the requirement has spread a safety net under the vulnerable legs of workers enjoying a minimum-wage regime. The question is how much of the labor force is actually covered by that net, and how many more workers will be exposed once the minimum is raised and the net contracts.

In this issue, we run right smack into an unfortunate fact of economic life: the higher the wage, the fewer the number of employees a business can hire. This is what economists call the law of supply and demand, which even the charisma of a Ramon Magsaysay could not repeal.

Raise the minimum by P125, and what will happen? The companies that already pay above the minimum will face higher demands during negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement—not right now, but down the road. Companies that meet the minimum and can also afford to give the raise will comply. But companies that cannot afford to pay the higher wages will be forced to do one of three things: continue operations without complying with the new minimum, hire more workers on a contractual or project basis, or close shop.

The argument that the minimum wage can be raised simply because labor costs account for only a fraction (some 10 percent) of total operating costs could only have been raised by someone who has never run a business or nursed a sideline or sold a trinket or two. In a highly competitive world of incredibly shrinking margins, a few percentage points can spell the difference between profiting and perishing.

The late 20th-century consensus that government should best keep out of the private sector flies in the face of the minimum-wage advocates, who want the government to step in and in effect make a critical business decision.

If the answer truly lies in legislating wage increases, why stop at a P125 hike? Why not P650, roughly the equivalent of what a domestic worker in Hong Kong earns in a day? In fact, why stop there? Why not P2,000, about the same as a minimum-wage earner in the United States earns in an eight-hour day?

The answer, of course, is that our economy cannot afford it. Raise the minimum, and more businesses will close shop, putting more workers out of work. As if the immediate post-Estrada scenario was not bad enough.

In the end, the P125 across-the-board wage hike is not a blow for labor; it is a strike against it.

Piece by piece

THE PROBLEM with an across-the-board increase is precisely that it applies to all. That makes it almost like a regressive tax: everyone shares the burden, but only a relative few (those who retain their jobs) enjoy the benefits.

What we need is the exact opposite: small-scale or company-specific initiatives, coupled with temporary tax credits. Unions must do a better job of ensuring that their members enjoy a proportionate share of a business' performance. The government can institute a tax holiday of some sort by, say, waiving personal income taxes for a period of six months.

The government can also set a higher minimum-wage requirement as an incentive, not a disincentive, by requiring government contractors at certain levels to follow a higher standard in order to be accredited. In the United States, for example, some 60 municipalities and counties have passed what are called living-wage ordinances, and about 75 more are studying their own versions. "The laws," the New York Times reports, "generally cover workers at businesses that have contracted with a city or county government."

Small steps, but it should get us from here to there.

Laymen and lawyers

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

AFTER PRESIDENT Nixon's speech on his visit to Russia in 1974, a reporter sought the reaction of a senator in the audience. The lawmaker said, "I cannot comment because I was taking a nap." On another occasion, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller was asked if he expected to be nominated by the Republican presidential convention in 1976. His reply: "I cannot conceive of any scenario in which that would eventuate."

These stories remind me of the aborted impeachment trial in our Senate. The first answer might well have come from some of the senator-judges who were caught on camera catching forty winks. Some important segments of the proceedings might have been lost to them because they just couldn't avoid nodding off. To be fair, the trial could be boring at times, as we all remember. The only thing is that while those in the gallery *could* and did sleep on occasion, the senators should not have, at all.

Rockefeller's reply could apply to the final decision on President Estrada's impeachment if the trial had continued. His acquittal was certain because there were more than eight senators who were prepared to block his conviction. For lack of the two-thirds vote needed to declare him guilty as charged, it was impossible to conceive a scenario in which that outcome would eventuate. In other words, Erap was sure to walk—or as Rockefeller would have put it, perambulate.

When the mistrial actually eventuated, all the work spent by the prosecution to collate and present the testimonial, documentary and physical evidence against President Estrada simply went down the drain. The revelations of the witnesses legally amounted to nothing despite the validity, credibility, and sometimes length of their testimonies, not to mention the risk to their lives or careers. Even their cross-examination by the defense and the senator-judges themselves would have been useless in the end.

All the proceedings amounted to was a fashion show among the senators, a continuous flow of grammatical lapses and mispronunciations, legal skulduggery at its worst, many displays of unabashed grandstanding, and, finally, as the climax of the farce, a revolting revelation of the depths to which some senators could sink for the most damnable of motives.

The reason is that the judgment was not expected to be based on the merits of the case. The more likely denouement was that it would be dictated by the political and personal ambitions of the senator-judges who were resolved to acquit their idol. The decision could not be strictly legal because most of the members of the Senate then, although not lawyers, also had a right to rule on the legal issues notwithstanding their obvious incompetence. Senators Robert Jaworski, Nikki Coseteng and Vicente Sotto III, to name some of them, were entitled to vote on these questions with equal weight as the lawyer-senators.

When is evidence material and relevant? What is hearsay, and when is it allowed? What is the parol evidence rule? Who is a hostile witness? Is there a difference between burden of evidence and burden of proof? Can the impeached official be subpoenaed by the prosecution? What are privileged communications?

These are parts of the mystique of the law that, say, Senators Tessie Oreta, Ramon Revilla and Gregorio Honasan would have found hard to understand. And yet, as members of the Senate, they had an equal right with the lawyer-senators to rule on these legal questions. Senators Osmeña, Ople and Tatad et al. might have been briefed on these issues by their legal staffs. Nevertheless, their background in other fields, however impressive, did not equip them to directly resolve legal issues as their lawyer-colleagues could.

If the senators were to act simply as jurors, there would be not much problem about the resolution of legal questions. Jurors decide only factual questions, like the credibility of the witnesses or the plausibility of such excuses as alibi or self-defense. They do not decide questions of law. This is the function of the judge, who is required to instruct the jury on the interpretation of the law as applied to the established facts before it retires to deliberate on its verdict.

The jury system is not applied in our country. The judge decides both factual and legal questions. The judge is a lawyer and so can competently decide a question of law even as he can also decide questions of fact like an ordinary layman. That is the dual role assigned to the senators trying an impeachment case. They are both juror and judge. They may all ably decide a question of fact but some of them may not have equal ability to decide a question of law because they are not lawyers.

The senators, including the non-lawyers, can even challenge no less than the Chief Justice—the highest judicial officer in the country—on a question of law. This was what happened at Estrada's trial, when the Craven Eleven directly prohibited the opening of the second envelope supposed to contain documents relating to Erap's hidden wealth. That was a legal question. Yet they did not even see fit to allow the Chief Justice to make an initial ruling on the issue.

As constituted during the trial, the Senate could overwhelm the Chief Justice on a legal question by as much as a two-thirds vote, excluding those of the lawyer-senators who might side with the chair. The 14 non-lawyers could outvote the seven lawyer-senators even on such legal questions as res *inter alios acta* and *factum probans* as distinguished from *factum probandum*. This is not to say that the lawyer-senators would always vote together simply because they know more about the law. In fact, two of them voted last January with the other nine senators who did not know any better.

Now that the impeachment trial of President Estrada is over, we should reexamine the impeachment rules in the Constitution with a view to providing for an impartial and competent court to try the respondent. A Senate composed of politicians and non-lawyers with more talent in other fields like basketball, toilet humor, disco dancing and *sabong* cannot have such credentials. Impeachment is a serious process that should not be conducted by amateurs in the administration of justice. It should be entrusted to jurists with proven experience, erudition and integrity, and without partisan loyalties or motivations.

Don't worry, be happy

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

ONE time while driving to the province with my nephews and nieces who were then still small, we happened to follow a tricycle carrying two pigs. I didn't give it much thought until one of my nieces said: "Hey look how good the owner is to take his pigs around for a ride (*pasyal*) and for sightseeing!"

That very moment, I realized how "adult" I had become, seeing those pigs as nothing but dead meat, while my niece saw in them live tourists! I saw the owner as an impersonal user, while my niece saw him as a thoughtful father. We both saw the same reality, but we had two entirely different perceptions.

* * *

In today's Gospel (Lk. 10, 38-42), we hear of two sisters, Martha and Mary, who loved the same Lord, yet perceived to love and serve Him in two different ways. Martha loved the Lord with her serving, while Mary loved the Lord with her listening and presence. The Lord ends up admonishing Martha not to be anxious or worried about many things, and going further, ends up with a twist, citing Mary as the one who has chosen the better part!

Like me, perhaps you must have thought that Jesus was unfair to Martha who had to do all the dirty work while Mary literally was just "sitting pretty." I don't know how this episode ended. Perhaps Martha got hurt or felt offended. Maybe she even organized a protest rally and so on. But the message is clear: God's ways are not man's ways. God sees bigger and broader than we. That being the case, we must continue to share His horizons. We must continue to see the "big picture" and not be glued to our little screens. In others words, we must not limit God, His love, His generosity, His wisdom and His providence.

* * *

What is a worrier? A worrier is a person who has lots of fears, insecurities, apprehensions in life and all that. But basically, a worrier is one who forgets who he is and who God is in his life. A worrier is simply one who lacks trust in God.

In his desire to be in control of everything and of everyone (including himself), he forgets that there is a power greater than himself, and so he ends up with manipulation, accumulation, accommodation and even deception so that he can hold on and control. Not wanting to "lose his grip," he'll hold on to anything or to anyone instead of holding on to God.

* * *

God helps those who help themselves, right? Right! Act as if everything depended upon you, and pray as if everything depended upon God, right? Right again.

So what's the problem? The problem is that we adults tend to exaggerate more the action part, "just in case." And we proudly call that being mature, being grown-up and being practical, "just in case." We look down on people who are so trusting, and see them as naïve, strange, or even stupid, like children. An adult surely cannot be careless! But God is not asking us to be careless when we trust as adults. All He is asking us is that we care less, because He cares for us!

* * *

Someone said that 92 percent of what we worry about never really happens and the 8 percent usually is manageable, and that which happens was bound to happen. It was not within our control from the very start. Instead of worrying about it, why don't you entrust what is bound to happen to God who has a reason, a plan (a good one) for anything that will happen? Don't forget there is a bigger plan than your personal plans. That's why it is called a master plan. It is your Master's plan. Some people have everything planned up—financial plan, health plan, vacation plan, retirement plan, memorial plan (even *leche plan*)—but forget their Master's plan in this life and in the life to come.

* * *

Most of our worries, whether real or imagined, stem from fear. The antidote to fear is not worry but trust. Don't forget what someone proclaimed some 2,000 years ago about the birds in the air, and the flowers that bloom and His Father who takes care of them. How much more will He take care of us His daughters and sons. Fear is useless. What is needed is trust.

* * *

For those who are worried and keep worrying about their health, remember, none of us will leave this world alive! So, stop worrying! The more you worry about it, the more your health deteriorates.

* * *

I used to worry about this Sunday column. From Monday on, I'd start agonizing already about what to write, what to say, etc., etc. Not anymore. I decided to start worrying from Friday on *na lang*. In other words, I have learned how to deal and cope with worry. Change of outlook is a big difference. But more than outlook, it's the uplook that really works!

* * *

You're not happy? Maybe it is because you worry. So, don't worry, be happy! Remember the song? Sing it. Don't worry if you're out of tune. Just sing, sing your song.

* * *

Thank you, Ditas Lerma, for the inspiration and the courage you give us all and for the beautiful text message you sent which says: "Worry is like a rocking chair. It will give you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere."

* * *

A moment with the Lord:
Lord, deliver me from fears, worries and useless anxieties. Amen.

The war we must wage

CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio T. Carpio

THE NATION today is into deep soul-searching, groping for answers as to why we are in this rut and how to get out of it. Asking the core question of our existence—whether we have a future as a nation—has never been this fashionable before. We must truly be in the midst of a national crisis of confidence.

With a 3.5 percent average annual GDP growth and 2.5 percent average annual population growth over the last 25 years, the Philippines has barely made any progress since 1975. Malaysia and Thailand, which have lower birth rates, have grown almost twice as fast as the Philippines, averaging an annual GDP growth of 6.8 and 6.1 percent, respectively, over the same 25-year period.

Peter Wallace, in his article, "Does the Philippines have a chance?" cites nine reasons why we have fallen behind when in 1975 we were ahead of Thailand and 40 years ago we were second only to Japan in all of Asia. These reasons are: destructive politics, high population growth, weak educational system, corruption, inadequate infrastructure, archaic agriculture, inadequate focus on job creation, a less than fair judiciary, and lack of peace and order.

A government with a huge deficit at a time of a global economic downturn and facing two long festering insurgencies cannot possibly tackle head-on all these nine causes of our underdevelopment. The government will have to focus on the root of these nine causes, and attack this root cause with all the resources at its command.

A common thread that binds all these nine causes is corruption, which is really the root cause of our underdevelopment. Destructive politics, which means politics for personal benefit at the expense of the national welfare, is fueled by corruption. When politicians incur campaign expenses far in excess of their legitimate salaries, it does not take a rocket scientist to figure out that the campaign expenses will have to be recouped from the public coffers. Forty percent of the Countrywide Development Fund of legislators is lost to corruption, which means 40 percent more farm-to-market roads could be constructed every year but are not.

Our weak educational system can largely be attributed to two factors: the lack of textbooks and the poor quality of teaching. The lack of textbooks, as exemplified by the textbook scam during the Estrada administration, is mainly due to corruption which accounts for as much as 40 percent of the budget for textbooks. The textbook scam showed that bribe money was delivered right on the doorsteps of Malacañang!

The poor quality of teaching is due to the minuscule net take-home pay of teachers, who have to pay 40 to 60 percent interest on salary loans administered by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports on behalf of usurers. DECS officials collect a handsome fee from the usurers. This has forced teachers to sell all kinds of wares, on top of their teaching chores, just to survive. Recently, Education Secretary Raul Roco mercifully transferred these loans to the GSIS which charges not more than 14 percent interest on the loans.

Our poor infrastructure system is due largely to corruption, which eats up about 30 percent of the national budget for public works. Every year we can build 30 percent more roads and bridges if only we can eliminate corruption. Our roads and bridges are in constant disrepair because 30 percent of the budget for maintenance work is lost to corruption.

Our dismal agriculture is due largely to lack of irrigation, a problem compounded by corruption, which reduces by 30 percent the amount available for irrigation works. As long as we do not expand our irrigation system, our productivity in rice production will remain very low, and even abnormally low every time El Niño hits the country.

Our rampant crime situation is greatly aggravated by corruption in the police force. Only the other day, the National Bureau of Investigation arrested two members of a kidnap-for-ransom syndicate, one of whom was a policeman. Far too many members of the police force have links with criminals, and some even head notorious crime syndicates. Ranking PAOCTF officers, the elite of the elite under former PNP chief Panfilo Lacson, are now under investigation or charged in court for murder, kidnapping and other serious offenses.

The government is now desperately trying to contain the budget deficit at the P145 billion level. The far graver problem, however, is corruption which devours 30 percent of the national budget, or P195 billion based on last year's P650 billion national budget. Public funds lost to corruption equal the annual national budget every three and one-half years.

The annual Department of Health budget for medicines is about P2 billion but knowledgeable sources say 60 percent of this amount is lost to corruption. The obvious solution is not to cut back the budget for medicines, but to reduce or eliminate the corruption. In this way, the medicines to be delivered to the poor can be increased by a whopping 60 percent without adding a single peso to the budget.

In the 1970s, Hong Kong faced a grave crisis because of widespread and deep-seated corruption in its police force. In the words of Bryon Hemshall, one of the organizers of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), corruption in Hong Kong was "threatening, by its very magnitude, to crack the fabric of society." The ICAC forcefully attacked corruption through investigation, education and prevention, enabling Hong Kong to attract foreign investors who turned it into one of the leading financial centers in the world today.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo will deliver tomorrow her first State of the Nation Address, outlining her master plan to win the future for the Filipino people. That plan must include a war on corruption. Otherwise, the crisis of confidence we now face will start to crack the fabric of our society.

The case against GMOs

COMMENTARY

Bernardo V. Lopez

THIS is a reply to two recent articles, the last on July 2, of Dean Jorge Bocobo, who is rooting for the propagation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in the Philippines.

Why are we protesting against Bt corn here, he asks, when "tens of millions (an exaggeration) of acres are already planted to (them) in the United States, Canada," etc.? He argues that based on numbers, it must be right.

This "must be" logic is questionable and has caused us havoc in the past, as I will explain.

When a monarch butterfly fed with pollen from Bt corn died, it caused a furor in the United States and Europe. There were strong protests from the American Corn Growers Association and the National Family Farm Coalition in the United States. The scientists of GMO multinationals argued that it was safe but many did not believe them. European countries wanted all food with GMO to be labeled. The powerful GMO multinationals tried to convince the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to not require labeling.

Ethical breach

This was the first ethical breach: the malicious suppression of labeling so that they would not lose their market and their millions.

Although the multinationals claim that it is safe, the word they should be using is "could." In the past, bad experiences showed that this is not altogether a sure-fire conclusion. The introduction of golden *kohol* here was considered a "scientific milestone" but it ended in tragedy just a year later. Golden *kohol* is now a pest that decreases our rice yields dramatically. This is irreversible in spite of so many deadly pesticides being used, bought from multinationals.

It takes time to prove something is good. We need to experiment for many years before we release a new wonder drug or a clone which can easily disrupt the food chain. There are many drugs now that were hailed as breakthroughs in medicine only to be banned after 10 years. The GMO guys could be right in insisting Bt corn "could" be safe, but only as of now, that is.

Bocobo admits there is a "trans-Atlantic battle" between these multinationals and environmentalists. He claims the "environmentalist activists... led by Greenpeace" are "well-funded."

On the contrary, the GMO multinationals have bigger funds, organizing pro-GMO groups in expensive PR battles against protesters. A pro-GMO group called Katipunan Farmers Alliance began by branding anti-GMO farm associations and NGOs as communists, a typically unfair ploy on countryside issues.

Guinea pigs

When Europeans mounted a strong opposition to GMOs, the multinationals went to Third World countries like Malaysia and the Philippines where they perhaps felt it was easier to "convince" people to accept GMOs with expensive PR programs. If they succeed in conducting "field tests" here, we then become the guinea pigs for their experiments in proving that GMOs "could" be safe. Filipinos may die for these multinationals if GMOs turn out to cause health or environmental aberrations after 10 years.

Suppose they find out that Bt corn causes cancer 10 years from now after accumulated ingestion, like some now-banned "wonder drugs"? Did any multinational scientist try to find out why the Monarch butterfly died after eating Bt corn pollen, instead of just giving paper arguments to the press that it was safe. If carcinogenic GMO is impossible or preposterous, is there enough data proving this to be so?

Bocobo labels anti-GMO efforts as "scare tactics" and "rumormongering," perhaps not realizing the deep scientific issues surrounding GMOs. He says golden GMO rice "promises to prevent five million (this was 50,000 in an earlier report) blindness annually with high Vitamin A content," the PR line of the multinationals.

This exaggeration is refuted by Von Hernandez of Greenpeace who says there is nothing "golden" about golden rice and calls it "fool's gold." He says that one has to eat nine kilos of golden rice a day to get one's daily dose.

As soon as he said this devastating line, the International Rice Research Institute, the golden rice advocate, softened its line and said golden rice was only a supplement. Hernandez says, however, that it is actually cheaper and better to eat vitamin-rich vegetables and fruits than golden rice.

False argument

The line that GMOs "are absolutely essential to world food security" is a false argument. Perhaps Bocobo fails to realize that the multinationals are pushing for GMOs not because they want to save the world from hunger but because they want to control the seedling production of Third World countries, which will give them the biggest windfall ever amounting to trillions of dollars.

Right now, Third World nations battered by globalization are already losing their capability to produce their own food as cheap imports from developed countries flood their markets. The Third World is becoming increasingly dependent on food from the rich nations. Here, our chicken, dairy, ice cream and beer industries are dying under the strain of globalization.

On the contrary, GMOs will threaten instead of strengthen food security for Third World nations, since they will then be dependent on the rich nations not only for pesticides and fertilizers but also seedlings. This is ultimate dependence and the rich nations will control food security in the Third World.

This is the grand master plan of the multinationals, a total agricultural takeover. Yet few are able to see this as the most crucial issue in regard to GMOs. It is not just a health or environment issue, it is a deep economic issue.

Bocobo exhibits his anti-clericalism by belittling a pastoral letter of Jaime Cardinal Sin opposing GMOs. He cites Sin's quote of an epistle as a "lame and boring New Age Euro-yuppie rant against biotechnology," when it is actually "relevant" and "critical" in the face of today's subtle corporate deceptions.

Sin actually drives home the point by saying we need to exercise "precaution" in dealing with "progress" without necessarily abandoning it.

Caution is the key word. Let us go for a long gestation period to prove something is good. And the multinationals can do the field tests in their own country, not here. Let us not jump prematurely into golden rice like we did into the infamous golden *kohol*. Let them be the guinea pigs, not us.

It is illogical to eat something because it has been proven safe "so far." If scientists warn of possible dangers, there must be caution. If we eat something controversial like GMOs, we do so at our own risk, until a lengthy gestation period of tests are made. For me, it is poison until it is proven to be food, guilty until proven innocent, since I value my life and we are treading on new unfamiliar and risk-ridden grounds.

Bernardo V. Lopez is a freelance journalist.

Why priests leave

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

WHY would a priest leave the priesthood? "Because of a woman" would be the knee-jerk response. But a book, "Leaving the Priesthood: A Close Reading of Priestly Departures," (Ateneo de Manila University Press) posits that a priest leaving the priesthood "is an event whose explanation cannot be reduced to one factor alone."

Author Emmanuel R. Fernandez, himself a priest who has served as a pastor and chaplain, chooses to examine the issue primarily through what he calls "life stories," accounts of individual men who felt the call and later walked away from it. Poignant indeed are those stories where, even years after the departure, the "departee" cannot resist looking back with some regret, and dare we say, longing.

Explaining why he chose priestly departures as the subject of his doctoral dissertation (in sociology), Fernandez proffers a life story of his own. His interest and concern, he writes, dates back to his days as a seminarian and was sparked by the departure of a young priest who had become a good friend of the family. His "pain and bewilderment" were aggravated all the more by his recognition that the disillusioned priest was "a very holy and dedicated priest."

"I saw how that well-loved priest was suddenly disowned and abandoned by his so-called friends. I witnessed his radical transformation from a well-respected figure to a pathetic object of ugly gossip. The experience led me to a painful realization that began to haunt me for the next several years: if it could happen to a very holy and very dedicated priest like him, it could happen to any priest."

* * *

HERE, then are two of the "life stories" of men of the cloth who chose to shrug off their priestly raiments for the humble rags of ordinary mortals.

"Father Bern" had been called by his bishop and instructed to found a junior high school in his parish. "Find a way to produce the funds," he was told. "You have a lot of friends, I'm sure. Why don't you ask for their help?"

Eager to please his bishop, "Father Bern" turned to his father for help. His father was retiring from government service and, in exchange for carrying out the needed legwork, "Father Bern" asked that half of the amount be loaned to him to finish the school's construction. The father agreed instantly, asking only that his son "take care of the family."

During the blessing of the school, the bishop asked "Father Bern" where he got the needed funds, and the priest told him of the loan from his father and his promise to pay it back. The bishop promised to help him fulfill this promise.

Serving as director of the school, "Father Bern" was able to gradually pay back his loan, but long before he could meet his obligations, just two years after the school opened, "Father Bern" was informed that he was being assigned elsewhere after a reshuffle. Though worried about his promise to his father, the priest moved on, but could not let go of his feelings of betrayal especially after the bishop refused to lift a finger in support. Shortly after, he left his assignment and went to his parents' home. "The truth was: I found no reason left for me to stay on in the priesthood. I felt there was no longer any point in staying on."

* * *

UNLIKE "Father Bern," who felt betrayed and abandoned by his "father" in the priestly vocation (who did not care if he let down his own biological father), "Father Leo" led an almost "charmed life" as a religious and educator. From his days in the seminary to his early years in the priesthood, "Father Leo" took easily to leadership roles, "always (gravitating) to the leader's position wherever I go."

By his early 30s, "Father Leo" was appointed president of his congregation's largest college.

It was while taking an M.A. in educational management that "Father Leo," the upwardly mobile priest/educator, encountered a young woman who would act as the "trigger" of his priestly crisis. Their relationship wrought in him a realization "that I felt an attraction toward marriage and family life."

Yet strangely, the woman hardly figured in his decision to leave the priesthood. After consulting three theologians separately, he arrived at an insight: while he led a busy and fulfilling work life, he had grossly neglected his prayer-life, and to continue to pursue his vocation despite the lack of the prayer dimension would be to betray his desire "to lead an authentic, honest life." Shortly after his realization, "Father Leo" received his dispensation, but he did not meet and marry his wife (of 19 years now) until two years later.

* * *

THERE are other "life stories" in the book, including that of a priest who led a "double life" for many years, occupying a prominent position in the bishops' conference during the day, and sharing a home with a wife and child at night.

But just as interesting as the stories of the "failed" vocations are those found near the end: "life stories" of priests who have managed to remain in the priesthood despite many disappointments, crises and temptations.

What seems clear from their stories is that they faced much the same challenges as those that drove the "departed" away. If they aren't any stronger or more special than the others, how were they able to remain, and why?

Fernandez has a whole dissertation-full of explanations, all pointing to the complex interplay of factors and circumstances. But as the "successful" or "surviving" priests explain, it may in the end simply boil down to a matter of God's grace, to finding the spiritual resources to continue in a life filled with hardship, loneliness, intrigue—but also blessings.

The nation in flux

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THE PROBLEM with state-of-the-nation assessments is that they are often empty political rituals. The government describes the institutional problems and prospects: the economic climate, jobs and investments, the budgetary picture, the peace and order situation, the state of our political life, and shows the way forward. Critics paint a grim picture of the realities and issues: the concentration of wealth, poverty, misuse of power, and show the futility of official policy.

Such exercises seldom lead to any imaginative transformation or redirection of the ship of state because what we are debating are the routines of collective life, rather than the basic social framework underpinning these routines. Take the wage boards as an example. Instead of arguing whether regional wage boards should be scrapped in favor of industry-wide boards, should we not be asking ourselves first what the principal role of the state should be at this time in our nation's history?

When we borrow from other nations, we bring in institutions that were shaped by the sensibilities and contingencies of another time and place. Unless we are conscious of their assumptions, these borrowed tools will not work for us. And, unless we are clear about what we want for our people and what our priorities are, we may forever be shopping for solutions.

Now is the perfect time to be discussing the basic framework of our society. For the nation is again in a state of flux. The feudal and colonial moorings of the entire institutional order of our society have been loosened. The old social divisions and rigid hierarchies that once defined the parameters of our national life are slowly melting before our eyes. The old elites that have been unable to reinvent themselves are in panic. The new middle classes are confused; they have claimed new territory but now they demand stability. The lower classes are restive. New opportunities are opening up but they are unable to access these. The poorest among them recoil from the new and seek comfort in the certainties of the old system.

We are in a period of transition, and it is not easy. But, as the Chinese might tell us, danger and opportunity come together. Instead of mutually reinforcing each other's despair over our seeming incapacity to put our act together, can we not try looking at this moment as precisely the opening we have been waiting for in which to reimagine our nation? In normal times, the institutions and routines that regulate our collective life are just too strong to allow any revision or reinvention.

Now, for the third time in roughly 30 years, we are afforded another chance to take a hard look at the basic rules of our society. The first was in 1971, the year preceding martial law. The second was in 1986, following the collapse of the Marcos dictatorship. And now, the challenge is thrust upon us again in the wake of the overthrow of a corrupt and incompetent president who came to power on the crest of a populist wave. We must seize this moment rather than flee from it. A conversation between Edsa II and Edsa III would be immensely productive. A constitutional convention before the 2004 presidential elections would be a timely way of reaping the lessons of the last two Edsas.

We may often despair over our growing reputation in Asia as the country that has used its intelligence to subvert its own future. But in fact few nations have been as lucky as we are in dealing with crises. Despite our problems in Mindanao, we have not plunged our country in a major fratricidal war. Neither the logic of race nor of religion divides our country in any permanent way. Even at the darkest period of martial law, our military bowed to civilian rule. Our major political upheavals and transitions have been models of non-violent processes. We can reasonably claim to be a democracy. Wherever they are in the world, our people are regarded as hardworking and peaceful. We command respect rather than terror in the community of nations.

In short, we have a record of human achievement that we can proudly build upon. But why is our national self-esteem so low? Why do we allow setbacks to drain our morale? I suspect it is because we get tired finding ourselves in exactly the same place over and over as if caught in a spin of eternal recurrence.

Perhaps the trick is to extend our time frames: instead of periods of six years, we might try reckoning history in terms of 50. Accordingly, we can say something has really changed only if it survives the test of at least five decades. Through this, we might learn perseverance. We might also learn to establish our institutions gradually on the foundation of our own experience, instead of taking shortcuts by adopting complete systems from abroad.

In many ways, we are still in that period of drift following the abysmal failure of the New Society experiment. The flux led us to the path of the pre-martial law order and produced Erap. Edsa II was a way of telling ourselves that we can no longer rely on an obsolete political system to survive in a highly competitive world. On the other hand, Edsa III reminded us that no nation can move forward if half of its citizens are excluded from the benefits of progress. It has taken us 15 years to learn these things, but that is still time wisely spent.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

THEY SAID

No hideout

"We cannot allow our province to always be the hideout of kidnappers."

—Basilan Gov. Wahab Akbar said in support of the military's "zoning" operations

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TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor
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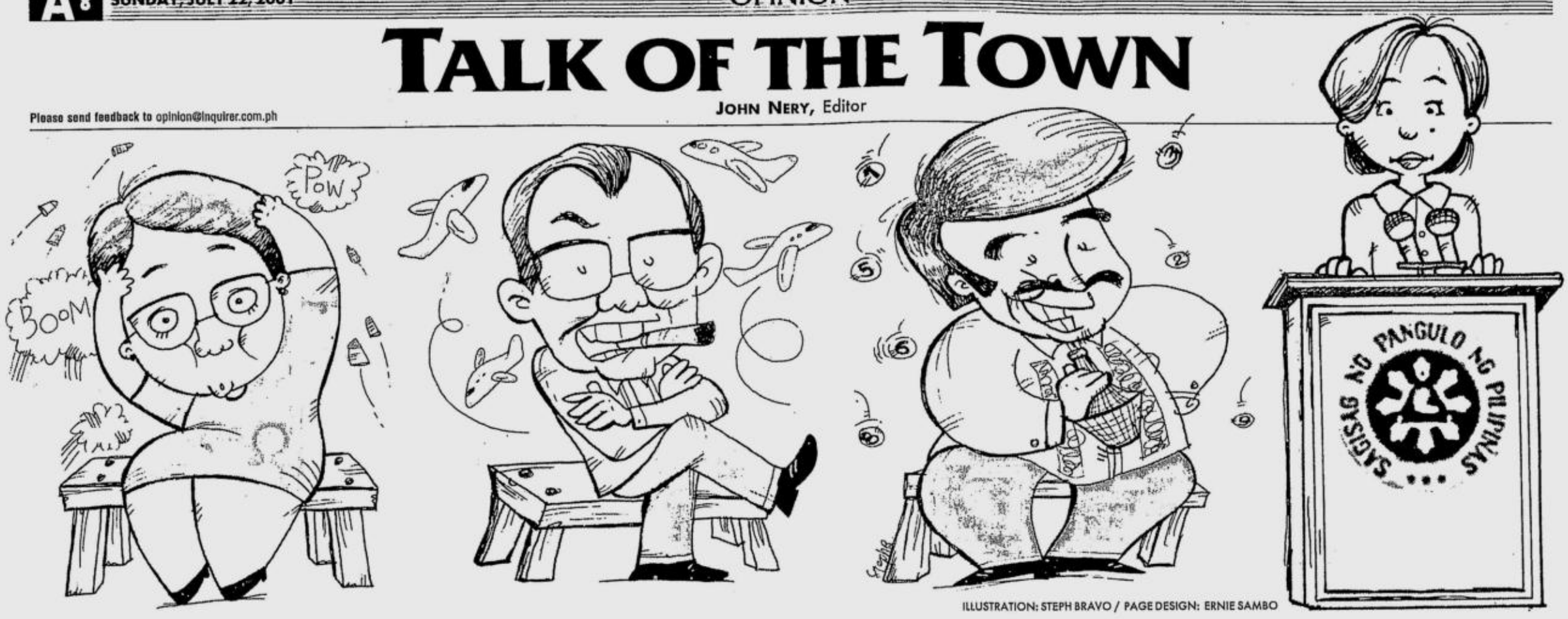

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What is the true state of the nation?

TOMORROW, the President delivers her first State of the Nation address. It is a responsibility detailed in the Constitution. (The phrase itself, a Filipinization of the "state of the union" provision in the US Constitution, is found only in the 1935 Charter, not in the 1973 or the 1987 Constitutions.)

But it has become familiar enough to enjoy a popular nickname, the Sona. Because of the press of circumstances, tomorrow's Sona has acquired the weight of an inaugural address, harking back to Franklin D. Roosevelt's first. Is there truly nothing to fear but fear itself? The country's three living former Presidents divine the true national condition.

The agenda: Secure peace and order

BY JOSEPH E. ESTRADA
President of the Philippines, 1998-2001

THE STATE of the nation today mirrors the collective anxieties of the present and the overpowering uncertainties of the future. It is a nation confronted by crisis and stress. It is a nation gripped in a state of inner conflict and in severe tension.

It is a nation condemned into a growing and recurring pattern of frustration, alienation and outright hostility besieging our people, seriously expressed in failed expectations of political and economic stability. There is today a rising sense of helplessness and fear that now do not come simply from the marginalized and poorer sections of society but even among the elite and big businesses. We live today in a nation in distress.

As we take stock of the premises and promises of a better society we believe we deserve, we must now come to terms with the reality that all is not well. The peace and order situation has deteriorated. The secessionist movement and banditry in the South continue to threaten the stability of our society. During my administration, we had taken the initiatives to contain these, and by recovering territories once occupied by secessionist groups, we believe we have gained enough momentum as to begin rebuilding Mindanao.

But today, we realize that our efforts are gradually being eroded. We must bring these issues once again into the heart of the agenda of government, for, as we have known, and have come to accept, economic growth cannot be realized with continuing threats of instability in the peace and order situation. Jobs have been lost and employment levels are consistently in a slump. Opportunities have been squandered because we have taken the peace and order situation for granted.

Thus, the promised economic deliverance has not come to pass. Economic growth for the past semester of the present administration is significantly lower. The growth rate of our GDP fell to 2.5 percent in the first quarter of this year, down from a full-year growth of 4 percent last year. In fact, before the impeachment proceedings in October, GDP growth was even higher at 4.8 percent. And it does not seem likely that it will be better for the rest of the year, prompting the present government to downgrade its target for GDP growth.

Average inflation has also risen to about 6.7 percent, compared to last year's 4.4 percent. The decline of our currency has also wrought havoc on economic productivity and on employment, forcing the Bangko Sentral to intervene openly in the market. We did not resort to this during my administration.

The stock market has also not picked up, registering in the past months even lower trading volumes than those recorded at the height of the impeachment proceedings. The closure of companies and the continuing flight of investments have practically become familiar and staple news in the business community.

We must therefore take note with concern that the farther away we are from the events that transpired last January, we can take a long hard look at our present economic predicament. We now realize that there are no instant solutions to the problems we faced then and the ones we are confronted now. We realized then, and we must continue to realize now, that there is an urgent need to overhaul our systems and structures, not only on the economic front, but also in the management of our peace and order situation. We must address these not with short-cut solutions such as the use of warrantless arrests, but with initiatives based on concrete and sustainable policies for rich and poor alike.

Liberalization, openness, deregulation, competitive-edge building, entrepreneurship and the creation of a knowledge-based economy must respond to our economic problems. This is the reason why, in the medium term, my administration pushed for structural reforms in terms of capital market development, which sought to develop instruments and institutions that will generate long-term savings to finance development; the strengthening of the banking system to foster greater competition and reinforcing the powers of the Bangko Sentral; the enhancement of the competitiveness of our domestic industries; and initiatives to secure the peace and order problem. I am pleased to note that some of these are now being pursued by the present administration.

But we realize that economic and other national policies must be influenced by market trends, not political interests or any posturings to remain in power.

Development should redound to the grassroots and not concentrate in the elite sector of society. We must now develop a concrete agenda toward uplifting the predicament of the poor, for Edsa 3 will always haunt this and future administrations. Democracy, given the noise and the theatrics, must be upheld. Democracy must not be reflected only in political freedoms, but in the democratization of wealth.

I believe that there is no greater proof of my adherence to these ideals than the fact that I have submitted myself to the rule of law and of our democratic institutions. I have upheld the freedom of assembly, of speech and of the press. Painful as it is for me, I humbly acceded to these ideals to preserve whatever gains we have made.

But, today, I maintain my desire to give the poorest of the poor better lives that will transcend politics and institutions. We must now resolve the distress that confronts us. Hence, in our common aspirations for national unity and sustainable development, I now stand to be counted.

The challenge: A painful process of soul-searching

BY CORAZON C. AQUINO
President of the Philippines, 1986-1992

MY ADMINISTRATION was wedded to People Power, for, after all, I became President by virtue of People Power. We resolved to listen to the different sectors and integrate their concerns into our program of government. Dialogue and consultation became the hallmark of my presidency. "Inclusion" became the byword for government as laws that were enacted factored in the participation of non-government organizations and peoples' organizations in various aspects of governance.

People Power became an organized force called civil society. Civil society graduated into a major political force in January 2001, when People Power rose once again to demand the resignation of an unworthy President and restore the dignity of the highest office of the land.

As we watched the impeachment proceedings on television on January 16, we were dismayed and angered by what we perceived to be the violation of public trust by the majority in the Senate, who were serving as judge and jury at the impeachment trial of former President Estrada.

And so we went to the Edsa Shrine to pray. Filipinos came to Edsa first by the hundreds, then by the thousands, eventually reaching the million mark, to call for an end to the Estrada government. The military withdrew its support and most of the Cabinet members resigned from their positions. Finally, on January 20, Vice President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was sworn into office as our President by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, before a euphoric crowd at the Edsa Shrine.

There were those who felt that, like the first Edsa People Power in 1986, the people's victory at Edsa People Power 2 came too easy. What was wrong with this picture? Why did we need another eruption of People Power just 15 years after the first one? What had we failed to do to ensure the sustainability of the gains of the first Edsa People Power?

Indeed, before we could address concerns, what was popularly but erroneously called People Power 3 came along. It was an entirely different phenomenon altogether. Although the huge crowds were there, using the same stage and the same hallowed grounds of the Edsa Shrine, with their banners hung in the same flyovers, where we had hung ours, nothing else about it was familiar.

It dismayed the participants of People Power 1 and 2 that the rhetoric of Edsa 3 was so angry and so full of hate. The calls of the speakers—politicians who had lost their positions of preeminence with the downfall of Estrada—were for violence against persons and the state. The crowd itself, many of whom were reportedly bussed in, fed and paid a daily allowance, was frighteningly unruly.

"Is this also People Power?" we asked ourselves. While politically, these people stood for values and personalities that we abhorred, did they not have valid issues such as their poverty and marginalization? Did the fact that they were led by politicians who shelled out funds to keep them interested invalidate their just concerns?

Is People Power the spontaneous expression of the righteous indignation of a moral people, or is it a kind of Frankenstein that can be harnessed for good or for evil? Could the mayhem they created last April and May have come from the same wellspring as the peaceful People Power 1 and People Power 2? What had made these people so hostile and seemingly unreachable? Why were they so angry?

Civil society, the churches and government have commenced a painful process of soul-searching to understand where we have failed the poor who came in droves in support of Edsa 3.

We have been challenged to examine the cultural context in which Edsa 3 took place. Edsa 3 has brought home the fact that there is an underlying weakness in the efforts of government, development workers and activists to educate and empower the poor. Perhaps we have not been really listening to the poor. Perhaps we do not understand their language, and vice versa. For why were we so jolted by the depth of their resentment against the very institutions that claimed to work on their behalf?

Just by listening to the bare bones of our recent history, I hope you have found enough grist for discussion about People Power and our insistence on peaceful social and political change in our country. You are welcome to analyze, scrutinize, dissect and vivisect our experiences and please help us find the answers we are looking for. For it is in knowing and acknowledging our mistakes that we can prevent a repetition of our painful past experiences.

Help us to better understand and define People Power so that we can truly empower all of our people.

Based on excerpts from a speech delivered on July 17, 2001 at the 7th International Symposium on the Contributions of Psychology to Peace, held at the Ateneo de Manila University.

The task: Dare to build an effective state

BY FIDEL V. RAMOS
President of the Philippines, 1992-1998

THIS IS the time for the strengthening of our democracy and the rule of law.

These next few months we Filipinos must spend picking up the pieces from the political, economic and social disaster the 30-month Estrada presidency brought upon our country. Not only has the deposed chief executive left us a towering budget deficit, a debauched stock market, and a devalued currency. He has also tried to unleash the dogs of class war among us.

And we are determined never to allow our political processes—and our political institutions—to fail ever again.

Hopefully, our joint strivings—those of government and the citizenry—will usher in a new era of stability and accomplishment. And by invoking the collective "national team spirit," we can put ourselves back on the road to economic recovery, democratic governance and sustainable development-as we did not too long ago.

That is why as former President, I continue to help our people and our government—regardless of who is the incumbent—to restore confidence in ourselves and the confidence of others in the Philippines as an attractive investment, trade and tourism destination, and as a capable partner in information and communications technology.

Our central task as a people is to build strong political institutions—to build an effective and efficient state. For the current administration, President Macapagal has identified as among her basic goals that of improving moral standards in government.

And this is fitting and proper, since any democracy needs strong ethical foundations. We must put a stop—once and for all—to the periodic crises that corruption, extravagance, cronyism, irresponsibility, and incompetence inflict on our national society.

President Arroyo must build quickly on the revival of confidence her presidency has generated. She must re-energize our people by raising before them the vision of a country that can do better.

The President needs to spell out challenging national goals—not only for the political leadership and the administrative bureaucracy but also for business, labor, and the country as a whole.

The urgent tasks of the Arroyo government can be summarized in what I call the four Cs:

- Consolidation of the leadership (within and among the cabinet, legislature, bureaucracy, AFP-PNP, civil society, the citizenry).
- Confidence and trust, which must be restored and strengthened, especially in regard to investments inflow, leadership capability, the rule of law and the respect of the international community.
- Continuity of reforms: in the economy, pro-poor programs, leveling the playing field, (transparency, predictability, accountability) and in strategic interventions.
- Competitiveness: improvement of production efficiency and quality, and exploiting our I.C.T. potential, our position as Asia-Pacific gateway, our human assets and natural resources.

Political stability must be restored through the peace process with the MILF and the CPP-NDF-NPA. On the other hand, the Abu Sayyaf, who are plain terrorists and bandits, must be dealt with forcefully and their armed capabilities reduced to insignificance.

The criminal prosecution for economic plunder of Mr. Estrada and his cronies, which has already begun, must be brought to an expeditious and just conclusion under the rule of law. Internal peace and order must be improved through better teamworking of local officials and the police/military.

In the economy, the urgent concerns are in managing the deficit, restoring business confidence, and completing structural reform with the active cooperation of Congress, as much as the support of our leading civic organizations.

Government needs to maximize revenues so that it can increase public spending on infrastructure and develop our human capital. Not only must public expenditures be contained; tax administration must be overhauled, tax programs simplified, and fiscal incentives rationalized.

Clearly, we Filipinos and our new government face severe challenges over this next decade. But we also have unique strengths we can draw upon as a people.

Politically, we Filipinos have emerged from our cluster of crisis situations more confident in our ability to govern ourselves in a truly democratic way. Our country is being cleansed by its constitutional ordeal.

Our nation is our people's joint-venture corporation—where each of us is a stakeholder and must share the responsibility of helping to insure the wellbeing of our nation, our communities, and more importantly, those of our children.

It is this quality of *caring*, *sharing* and *daring* for each other that is the defining quality of what is called "civic responsibility."

Caring and sharing may be easy enough for us Filipinos to do because we are naturally hospitable, compassionate, generous and friendly.

But daring to take active part in public concerns, daring to commit oneself to civic tasks, daring to give more than to take, daring to reform oneself to make a difference, daring to take collective action for the common good: these are the real, the ultimate tests of responsible citizenship and civic leadership.

With the 12th Congress in place, the nation and the international community await President Macapagal's first State of the Nation Address with keen anticipation and high hopes for a better future.

In everything we do, all of us must have a thought for the betterment of our nation—much better than it has ever been.

The Philippines is the only country we have.

Talking points

THE SPEECH of Mrs. Aquino, written for a very specific audience of international psychologists, prompts this not completely unserious thought. A State of the Nation address is the political equivalent of the monologue on the psychiatrist's couch, except that in this instance the armchair shrinks number in the millions. The Sona, as it were, is a window into the neuroses (consuming interests), speech tics (language patterns) and behaviorial quirks (paradigmatic thinking) of the speaker.

The style of Mr. Ramos's Sona, to give just one example, is eminently the man: bullet points, mnemonic devices, Rotary Club-flavored calls to action. Even his metaphors are those of an executive: "Our nation is our people's joint-venture corporation."

This is not to say that, if he were still President, this is the way he would have written his address. The limitations of a column-length piece, running 800 words more or less, are severe. Mr. Estrada, like Ramos, has to make do with the use of code words, or what George Orwell would have called prefabricated phrases, to get around these limits. "Liberalization, openness, deregulation, competitive-edge building, entrepreneurship and the creation of a knowledge-based economy must respond to our economic problems."

The challenge in crafting a Sona, as with any keynote speech, is **striking the balance** between the evocative generalization and the stirring specific. Because it is not an academic presentation, the speaker cannot afford to define every term or indeed identify every assumption. And as George Stephanopolous has pointed out, the cliches of the opposition must be matched by cliches of one's own. (The actual quote is, "It takes a cliché to answer a cliché.")

For an example, Aquino's statement, that "People Power rose once again to demand the resignation of an unworthy President and restore the dignity of the highest office of the land," should suffice.

Statistics, of course, are one **convincing way to present specifics** (two other ways, Mark Twain might have said, are lies and more lies). By keeping to a pre-impeachment point of comparison, Estrada is able to give a failing grade to the administration that succeeded his on almost every indicator.

But comparing GDP growth over three months versus one full year is a speechwriter's sleight of hand. In other words, there's no comparison.–*J. Nery*

GABRIELA CHALLENGE

Jail Luli's harasser, Gloria urged

THE FEMINIST group Gabriela said President Macapagal-Arroyo should pursue the case against the official who sexually harassed her daughter at the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Gabriela deputy secretary general Emmi de Jesus said presidential daughter Luli Arroyo's unidentified harasser should be charged in court until he is put behind bars.

"The President should pursue the case to make an example out of him. We challenge her to pursue the case until the suspect is jailed," De Jesus told a press conference at the Treehouse restaurant in Quezon City.

Luli was allegedly harassed while working as a consultant at the DFA in 1996. Despite her being a daughter of then Sen. Macapagal-Arroyo, Luli allegedly got "a lot of pressure not to pursue the case."

The INQUIRER learned that Luli's harasser is now posted abroad.

De Jesus said the case should be pursued as an example considering the fact that there are many women who do not have the means to get back at their harassers because of their poverty.

"While we sympathize with Luli, we should also remember that many victims do not have the options when faced with this kind of problem," she said.

Gabriela urged the administration to help the situation of these poor women by improving their economic condition.

The President revealed her daughter's harrowing experience Friday as she approved new rules on handling and punishing sex offenders in government agencies.

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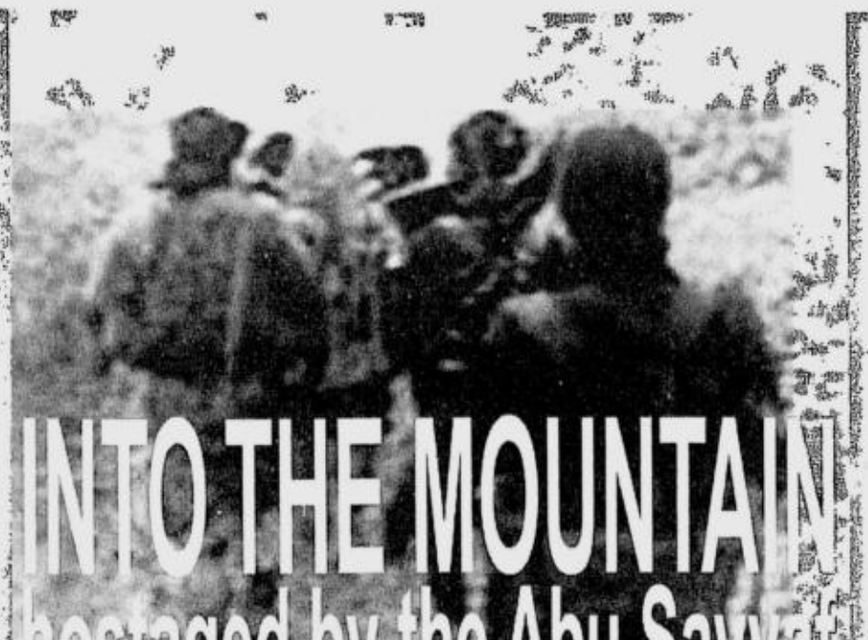

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LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

G8 meet faces biggest demo

GENOA, Italy—World leaders launch into the second day of a G8 summit Saturday despite calls to cancel the talks after widespread violence, in which an anti-globalization rioter was shot dead, cast a pall of gloom over the meeting.

However, the anti-globalization movement said it would go ahead with the biggest demonstration yet against the domination of rich states in a march expected to draw 100,000 people onto the streets of the embattled Mediterranean city later Saturday.

The Genoa Social Forum, the umbrella group for a plethora of disparate anti-capitalist groups protesting here, called for the immediate cancellation of the summit after the rioter was shot dead in a clash with police.

It also called on Interior Minister Claudio Scajola, who has overall responsibility for police, to resign after a day of violence in which more than 150 were injured.

In an incident likely to cause a domestic furore for the new rightwing Italian government, the young Carlo Giuliani was shot dead by an injured policeman trapped by rioters in a car.

Fellow protesters left a steadily building mound of flowers on the bloodied asphalt to commemorate his death late Friday.

Leaders of the Group of Eight powers voiced regret over the incident, which eclipsed an announcement of a 1.2 billion dollar "Global AIDS and Health Fund," and protesters said police had reneged on an agreement not to carry firearms.

The sheer disparateness of the anti-globalization movement, a loose coalition of bodies ranging from Greens to radical leftists, made it difficult to predict whether the death would chasten or further anger its more militant elements, responsible for the mayhem on Friday.

However the British umbrella group for the elimination of Third World debt, Drop the Debt, decided that its 2,500 activists here would not take part in Saturday's march for fear of more violence, its spokesperson Lucy Matthew said early Saturday.

Tens of thousands joined Friday's demonstration, when hundreds of radicals clashed repeatedly with police and attempted to tear down barriers sealing off the old quarter where the leaders were meeting.

Demonstrators torched vehicles, ransacked a bank, smashed windows, and fought fierce running battles with police in the center of the city over eight hours, which left the streets carpeted with debris late Friday.

The prospect for more chaos on Saturday is increased, given the sheer size of the expected crowd.

"I expect the demonstration tomorrow to be quiet and peaceful. I think that the police will be more careful. I don't think that they will let themselves be provoked in the way they were today," said 32-year-old Jaume Sanchez, a secondary school teacher from Barcelona.

"There was violence today from both sides, but there was really brutal repression from the police," he said.

RIOT police storm past a dead protester shot and killed by a Carabiniere during rioting in central Genoa July 20. Police fired live rounds, tear gas and used water cannons as they moved to disperse thousands of protesters demonstrating against the G8 summit. REUTERS

"No-one has been killed in 24 years in Italian demonstrations," said Dora Beggini, 20. "This creates a completely different situation not just in Genoa but in the whole country," said Beggini, from Padua in northeastern Italy.

"Starting tomorrow it is a whole new situation. We weren't here for a war, we were here for a demonstration," said the protester, who said she was an independent radical based with anarchist groups in the Carlini stadium.

The demonstration is due to get underway around 2 p.m. (8 a.m. Sunday in Manila).

Away from the clamor on the streets, the leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States will discuss poverty alleviation and aid in a morning session at the Palazzo Ducale, some 500 meters behind the barriers.

The eight leaders will also discuss conflict resolution in Africa, the Balkans and the Middle East during a working lunch in Genoa's old port. *AFP*

UN small arms talks on brink of failure

UNITED NATIONS—Delegates to a UN conference on regulating the worldwide small-arms trade expected to work through the night Friday in a bid to avoid complete failure in reaching a draft final statement due to US objections.

Delegates were discussing what conference president Camilo Reyes of Colombia called a final proposal to bridge the gap between those who want stronger measures against the proliferation of small arms, which the UN says kill 1,000 people a day, and US determination to oppose measures barring civilians from owning guns or restricting the legal trade in such weapons.

"I think there is a chance of reaching an accord," said a UN official, who requested anonymity, adding that discussions have reduced the differences over the final document, but the most difficult issues remain to be resolved.

The conference was expected by Friday's close to adopt a consensus plan inviting countries to reinforce cooperation to battle the proliferation of small arms that kill an estimated 500 million people annually, 90 percent of whom are civilians.

Since the conference began on July 9, however, the United States has said it would oppose any measure infringing on the right to bear arms guaranteed in the US Constitution, including constraints on the legal trade and legal manufacturing of small arms or measures barring civilian possession of such weapons.

European and African nations—which support tighter restrictions on the small-arms trade—have criticized the perceived US unwillingness to compromise, as have several private groups attending the conference.

The US advocacy group Human Rights Watch denounced the "strong isolationist strain" on the part of the United States, deploring that the conference has done nothing to deter that nation from providing arms to those who violate human rights.

"We come here hopeful that we can work together and that we can go away from New York with an agreed political program of action," US assistant secretary of state for political and military affairs Lincoln Bloomfield said Thursday, offering some hope for a compromise. *AFP*

Poor Asean members urge partners to bridge gap

HANOI—Poorer members of the diverse Southeast Asian bloc Saturday stepped up demands for their more advanced partners to intensify efforts to narrow the yawning gap in levels of regional affluence.

"Narrowing down the development gap between member countries" would be one of the "major tasks" for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the years to come, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien said.

Asean needed to create "a stable environment for the development of each country and the region as a whole," Nien told senior Asean officials as they wrapped up talks preparing for a meeting here of their foreign ministers from Monday.

The ministers are due to adopt an Initiative for Asean Integration which has been one of the main priorities of Vietnam's year-long tenure of the regional grouping's rotating chairmanship.

The initiative sets out the commitments of Asean's six core members—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—to help the integration of newcomers Cambodia, Laos, Burma (Myanmar) and Vietnam.

The bloc, a market of 500 million people, encompasses some of the world's poorest countries with one of the richest, Singapore.

Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said "the most fundamental problem for Asean is how Asean people will seek Asean integration."

"From my point of view Asean needs to reach as soon as possible full integration so it can move forward in this globalized world," he said in Phnom Penh before leaving for Vietnam.

Hor Namhong said this included the Asean Free Trade Area, which aims to bring down tariffs to between zero and five percent by 2003 for Asean's more developed members.

"We have to implement what we have decided."

The Vietnamese minister said the promotion of regional stability would be a top priority for the ministers' meeting, which comes against the backdrop of renewed turmoil in Indonesia with parliament at war with President Abdurrahman Wahid.

The economic climate is also turning chilly with the US slowdown slamming the brakes on the technology sector that powered East Asia's export-led recovery from the 1997 crisis.

Nien said Asean had set up a task force to look at integrating its less advanced members and that the foreign ministers were likely to issue a declaration pledging their support for the initiative.

Asean Secretary General Rodolfo Severino, acknowledging the economic gap between members "is pretty wide," said the task force would take on board some of the lessons learned in the process of European integration.

"We're trying to do the same thing," he told reporters after the officials' preparatory talks. *AFP*

US airmen in Okinawa arrested

TOKYO—Police arrested two US military personnel Saturday on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa for vandalism just two days after a US airman was charged with the rape of a local woman.

The incidents sparked further anger at the military's presence on the island ahead of a lightening visit to Japan by US Secretary of State Colin Powell next week.

"We feel a rush of anger as the incidents occurred at this timing," said Seiichi Oyakawa, spokesperson for Okinawa governor Keiichi Inamine.

"It is quite regrettable as the state, Okinawa prefecture and the US military are now discussing concrete measures to tighten discipline," Oyakawa said, adding that the sincerity of the US side would be called into question.

Fernando Blanes, a 22-year-old soldier stationed at Kadena Air Base, was arrested for setting fire to a car, destroying it, a local police spokesman said.

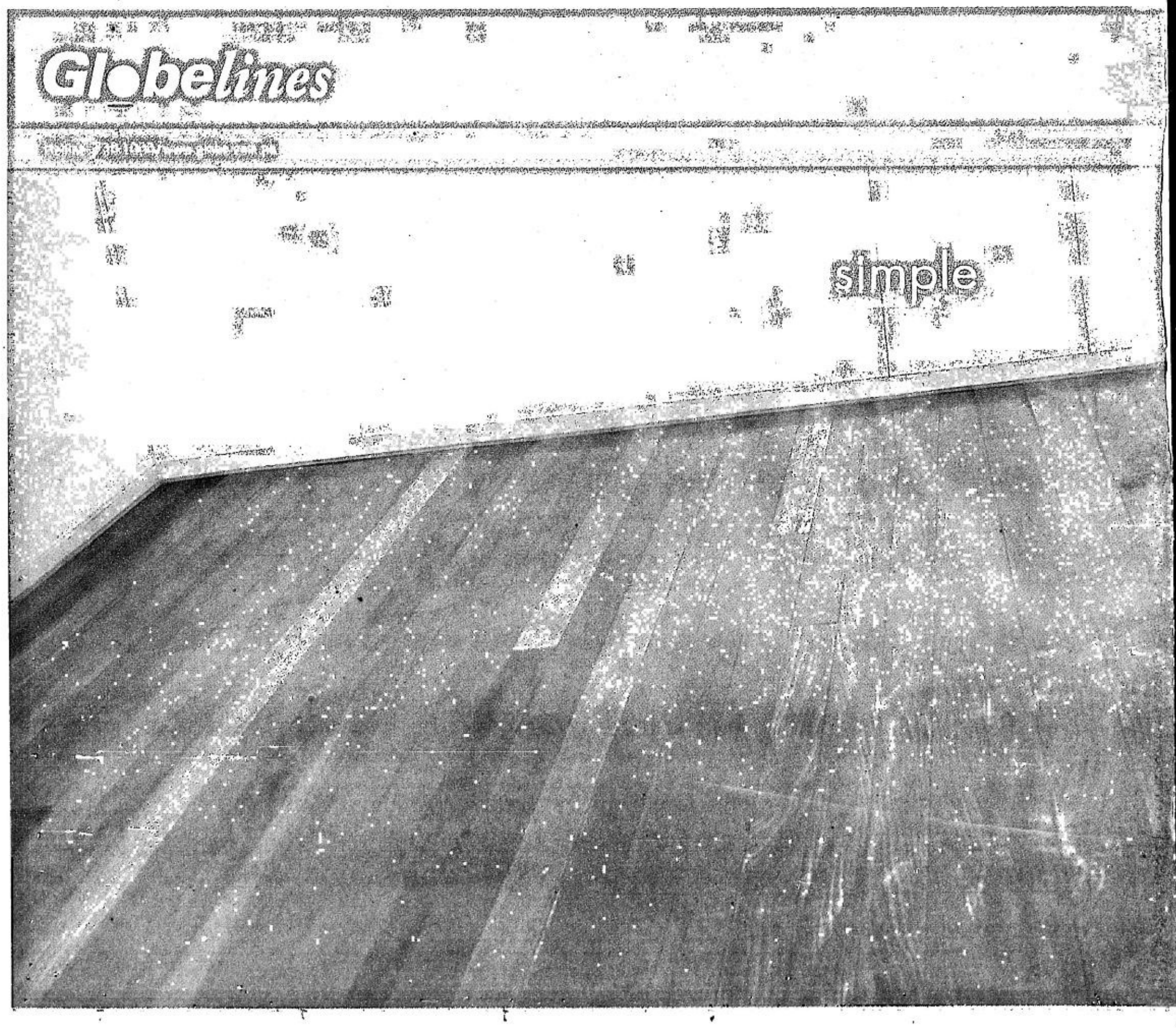
Television news reports said Blanes was drunk when the incident allegedly occurred at a parking lot in the residential area of Yamauchi.

The spokesperson said a witness called police about 5 a.m. and told them where Blanes had fled to.

Blanes was in the custody of Okinawa police. It had not been said whether he had admitted to the charge.

In a separate incident earlier Saturday, a 19-year-old marine stationed at the Futenma base was arrested for damaging a motor bike in Uechi, police said.

He allegedly pushed over the bike, destroying its muffler. The marine's name was withheld because of his age. *AFP*



MPs vote to immediately start Wahid impeach proceedings

JAKARTA—President Abdurrahman Wahid on Saturday announced he would boycott impeachment proceedings against him, which he described as "an act of treason."

In a nationally televised news conference at the state palace, Wahid pleaded with his political foes to strike a deal that he said would save his nation's nascent democracy and prevent a new wave of civil unrest.

Less than an hour later at the heavily guarded Parliament building, the People's Consultative Assembly convened a special session as a prelude to a formal impeachment hearing.

The session opened after Wahid's minority National Awakening Party and some other small pro-Wahid groups said they would also not participate.

The assembly's chair, Amien Rais, has demanded Wahid appear before it on Monday to defend his administration's troubled record and address allegations of corruption and incompetence.

The two largest factions in the body which represent the majority in the 700-member body—the Golkar Party of former dictator Suharto, and the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle party of Vice President Megawati Sukarnoputri—said they wanted to go ahead with the special impeachment session.

"I will not attend this illegal meeting," Wahid said. "This is act of treason."

Lawmakers said they would proceed with or without the cooperation of Wahid or his party.

"If he does not show up, we could terminate his presidency by Monday evening," said one prominent legislator, Alvin Lie.

In his speech, Wahid refrained from restating earlier threats to declare a state of emergency and close down the assembly—a move opposed by the military.

"But I have many options," he said. "I won't tell what I will do. But I will do something" by July 31.

Wahid predicted there would be a violent reaction to any move to impeach him, saying he enjoyed wide support among the people.

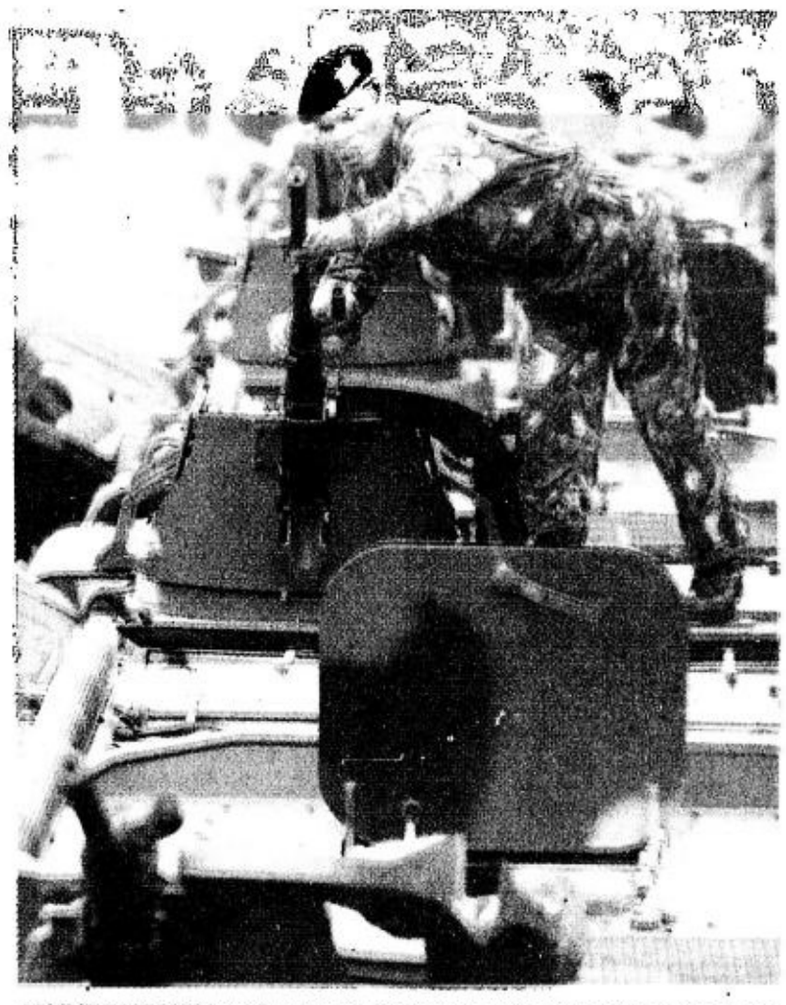
"Don't blame me if the crowd takes care of everything by themselves," he said, adding that he would urge his supporters to refrain from resorting to violence.

Wahid said there were no grounds for holding him responsible for the country's economic woes or for continuing separatist, ethnic and religious bloodshed.

"Those were mistakes from the past" that could not be rapidly resolved, he said. As far as the economy was concerned, Wahid said that "business confidence was returning."

Indonesia's economy shrank by 14 percent in 1998, at the height of the Asian financial crisis. It recorded no growth the following year. Since Wahid came to power the economy expanded by 5 percent in 2000 and is set to repeat that performance this year.

Wahid, 61, was elected by the assembly in October 1999 as Indonesia's first democratically chosen head of state in four decades. *AP*



AN INDONESIAN soldier cleans the heavy caliber machine gun on one of the armored personnel carriers parked inside the parliament July 21 as lawmakers discuss the crisis surrounding President Abdurrahman Wahid's fragile grip on power. The APCs are part of the security forces' plan to evacuate members of the assembly in case of trouble. REUTERS

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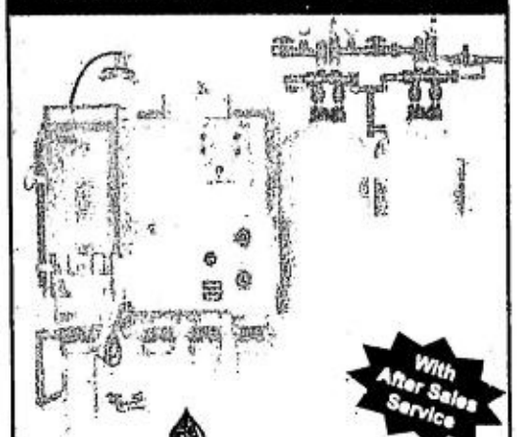
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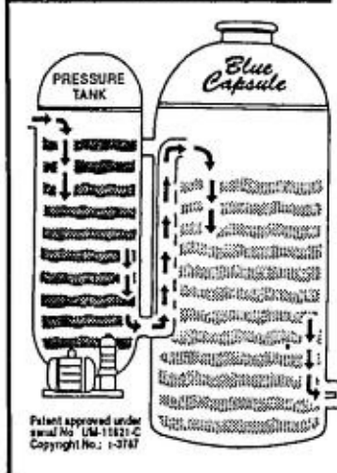

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Solon urges sanctions on Condit in Levy case

WASHINGTON—A US legislator on Friday filed a formal ethics complaint against his congressional colleague Gary Condit for allegedly obstructing an investigation into the disappearance of the 24-year-old Washington intern with whom Condit has been linked romantically.

Republican Congressman Bob Barr, the first member of Congress to call for Condit's resignation earlier this month, sent a detailed, seven-page complaint requesting that the House of Representatives Ethics Committee sanction Condit for allegedly obstructing the investigation into the disappearance of Chandra Levy.

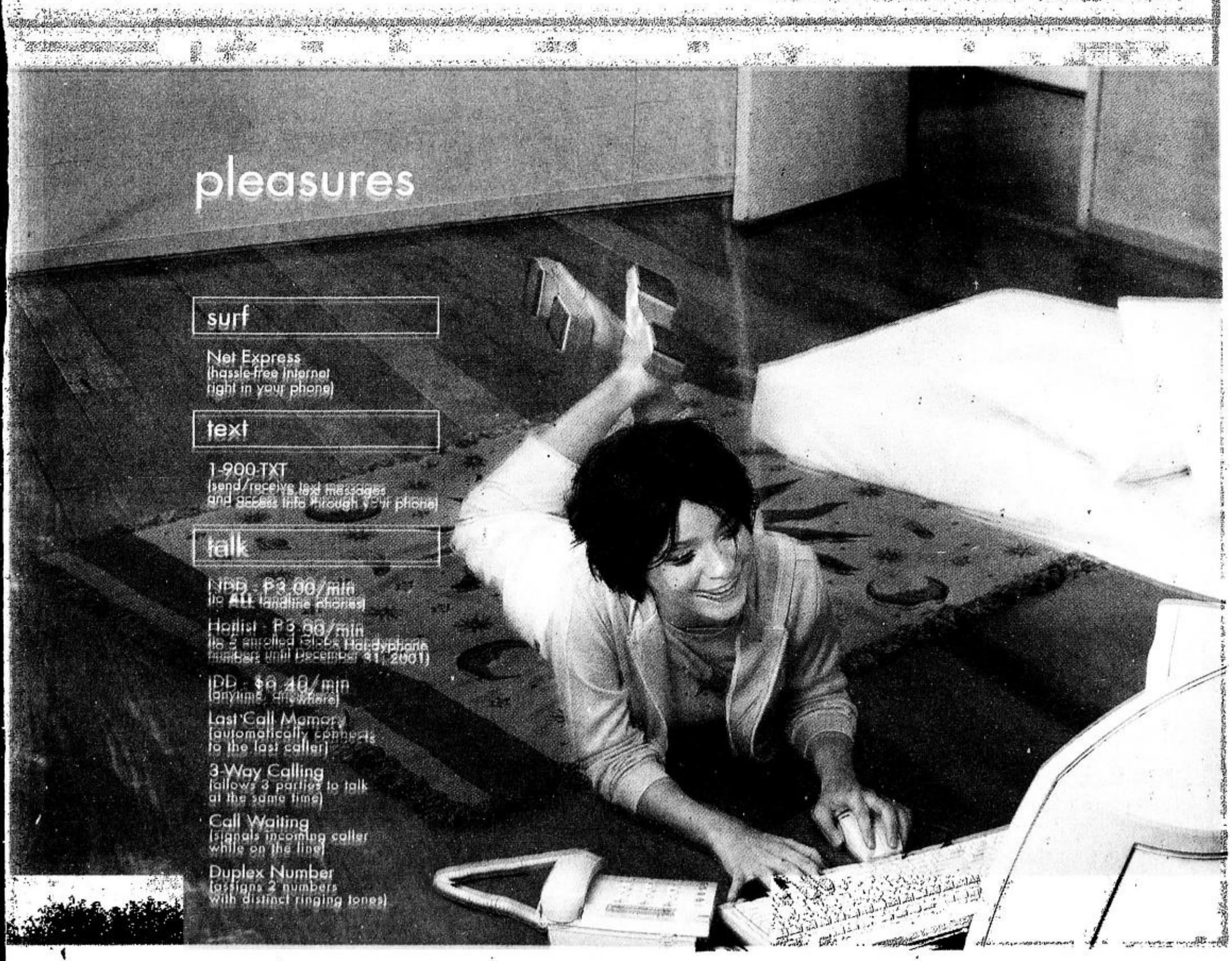
In the seven-page document, Barr criticized Condit for failing to cooperate fully with police early on and "for improper conduct that brings discredit to the United States House of Representatives."

Levy, who came to Washington last year to serve as an intern with the Federal Bureau of Prisons and was last seen April 30, then disappeared without a trace. A search of her apartment turned up her packed luggage, jewelry, credit cards and 30 dollars in cash. Only her house keys were missing.

Police say Condit, who is married and has two children, has admitted to having a sexual relationship with Levy, 24, who was last seen April 30 after finishing a federal internship.

But the beleaguered congressman, although hounded by Washington journalists and pundits, has not been officially named a suspect, nor is the investigation classified as criminal.

However, federal officials are looking into whether Condit tried to obstruct justice when his attorney asked a flight attendant who claims to have had an affair with him to sign an affidavit saying the two never had a relationship. *AFP*

It's all in here.


Musharraf: Ignore extremists

ISLAMABAD—Calling a peace summit with India "a good beginning," President Gen. Pervez Musharraf Friday urged both Pakistan and India to ignore extremists in their search for a settlement to the decades-old dispute over Kashmir.

"As long as the vast majority of people are with us, we have to be strong enough and bold enough to ignore the extremist minority," to solve Kashmir, a dispute that has bedeviled relations between the South Asian neighbors.

"We have to strengthen the hands of moderates and not extremists," he said.

"We tried our best to reach a settlement, myself and Vajpayee. . . There is no question of who won or who lost," Musharraf said of the 3-day peace summit that ended Monday without an agreement.

"This is not a game of football. It is too serious a business we are involved in to relegate this to a point scoring between each other," he said.

Divided between India and Pakistan after British rule of South Asia ended in 1947, Kashmir has been the cause of two wars between India and Pakistan. They fought a third war in 1971 over Bangladesh or what was then East Pakistan in 1971.

However the enrollment of nuclear weapons into their arsenals has caused international worries that another confrontation could deteriorate into a nuclear war or that their deep mistrust of each other could accidentally spark a nuclear exchange.

Speaking for the first time since returning from India, where a joint declaration was scuttled at the 11th hour apparently over Kashmir, Musharraf praised Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as a statesmen and lamented their failure. *AP*

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Maguindanao clan denies kidnap raps

COTABATO CITY—An influential clan in Maguindanao, linked to the abduction of Chinese engineer Zhang Zhong Quiang in North Cotabato, has denied involvement in the incident and vowed to face charges in court.

Alonzo Bangculit, speaking for Mayor Django Montawal of Pagalungan, Maguindanao, said the mayor's sons were not involved in the abduction, claiming one of them was a barangay official.

"We are ready to face the accusers in court to vindicate our name," Bangculit, also a relative of Mayor Montawal, said.

"In fact, Mayor Annie Montawal (of Pagagawan), wife of Mayor Django, is now in the hospital, depressed because of the news."

On Tuesday, the provincial prosecutor's office of North Cotabato filed kidnapping and illegal detention charges against brothers Kautin and Andy Montawal.

A warrant of arrest has been issued against them.

Andy is the chief security officer of blue guards at the Malitubog-Maridagao irrigation dam in Carmen, North Cotabato, where Zhang's firm is a subcontractor.

Kautin is chair of Barangay Tunggol and president of Pagalungan's Liga ng mga Barangay.

Eight persons, including van owner Percival Ceriales, driver Vicente Guingona, blue guards Jimmy Nataja and Nasser Penoliday, and two unidentified suspects have been charged in court.

In their affidavits, they claimed that Andy and Kautin masterminded and financed the kidnapping. The suspects reportedly handed over the victim to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

The provincial government of North Cotabato has raised a P100,000 reward for anyone who can provide information on the whereabouts of Zhang's kidnappers.

Zhang, 43, was seized on June 20 while he was on board a van driven by Guingona in Matalam, Cotabato. ***Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Baguio residents press eco-plan in 'Feria' wake

BY VINCENT CABREZA
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Baguio's old families are pushing the city government to hold an ecological dialogue following the destruction wrought by typhoon "Feria" here and the rest of Northern Luzon.

The dialogue hopes to consolidate urban planning and environmental policies, which Baguio politicians "refused" to implement following the July 16, 1990 earthquake that damaged the city.

But the meeting will not necessarily support a proposed total log ban, which Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. resurrected to address the country's vulnerability to disasters.

Francisco Bibal, a forest biologist, said the government should first focus on local government responses to rapid urbanization because most of the environmental stresses felt by Baguio and other highly urbanized cities in recent weeks could be traced to "bad political decisions" and not just the loss of forests.

"Most of the geological and engineering issues raised to explain the landslides and flooding here by Feria were already anticipated in 1990, but no one applied any of them," Bibal said.

"We find this very strange. What did the politicians want to hide from the rest of us? Why were these plans never implemented?" he said.

"(These plans) could have saved the lives of at least 100 people (who died at the height of the typhoon)," Bibal said.

Government geologists said the city's natural waterways had been blocked by unregulated development and by squatter colonies in highly critical mountains overlooking downtown Baguio.

These caused the unusual floods that hit parts of Baguio, and might have triggered massive landslides in the city.

Bibal was tasked by civic leader Leonides Bautista, the dialogue convenor, to draft the framework for "the first consultative workshop on new development options for Baguio City," which the old families plan to sponsor this month.

Bibal said both the dialogue and the workshop aimed to draw a consensus from city residents on a workable and strategic urban ecological framework that will encompass land-use plans, infrastructure policies and investment policies.

"From the beginning, the city government concentrated on Camp John Hay and huge high-rise projects, and the Baguio Country Club, and conveniently forgot the smaller details," he said.

For example, he said, the government did not fix Burnham Park, a vital element in a good ecology because it is a recreation magnet.

"They preferred high-profile projects and neglected the area where 90 percent of Baguio residents meet because it is free," he said.

The city is known for its ecology-friendly policies, including an ordinance penalizing those who scratch or injure pine trees.

Baguio also took center stage for blocking a Taiwanese investor who offered to develop Camp John Hay, "all in the name of forest protection."

Fugitive mayor dares foes to surface

BY VILLAMOR VISAYA JR.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

SANTIAGO CITY—Mayor Jose Miranda challenged his political enemies, particularly those pooling a P1-million reward money for his arrest, to come out in public.

In a telephone interview aired over dwSI-Angel Radyo here, Miranda promised to surface and take over his post tomorrow despite the arrest warrant issued against him for double murder charges.

Miranda, who has been in hiding since June 25, also dared those pooling the reward money to give P500,000 to the Santiago City parish and P500,000 to the organizers of the city's fiesta celebration.

Proponents of the reward, composed of local businessmen, politicians and civic leaders, have requested anonymity but said they would come out soon.

"We will raise the amount silently. We are (actually) targeting P2 million. We are avoiding repercussions and we will probably come out soon," a businessman, who bankrolled the reward scheme, told the INQUIRER.

A wealthy resident, he said, has pledged P400,000 for the reward.

The businessman said the donors were planning to turn over the money to the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption, the anti-crime group headed by Dante Jimenez and Lauro Vizconde.

"In this way, we, as donors, could not immediately reveal our identities. After things are ironed out, we will finally surface," the businessman said.

The city government's operations remained normal despite Miranda's absence. Vice Mayor Clarito Manubay has assumed Miranda's post in an acting capacity.

Wilfredo Baltar Sr., city information officer and Miranda's spokesperson, has appealed to residents here to remain calm despite the political controversies besieging Miranda.

The National Bureau of Investigation and the police tried but failed to arrest Miranda on June 25 for the 1996 murder of two suspected jueteng employees in the province.

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern Luzon will experience partly cloudy to cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms. SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 24°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Hi 22° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy w/ Rain	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy w/ Rain	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy w/ Rain	Hi 31° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Bacolod	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 26°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33° Lo 23°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/07/22/01

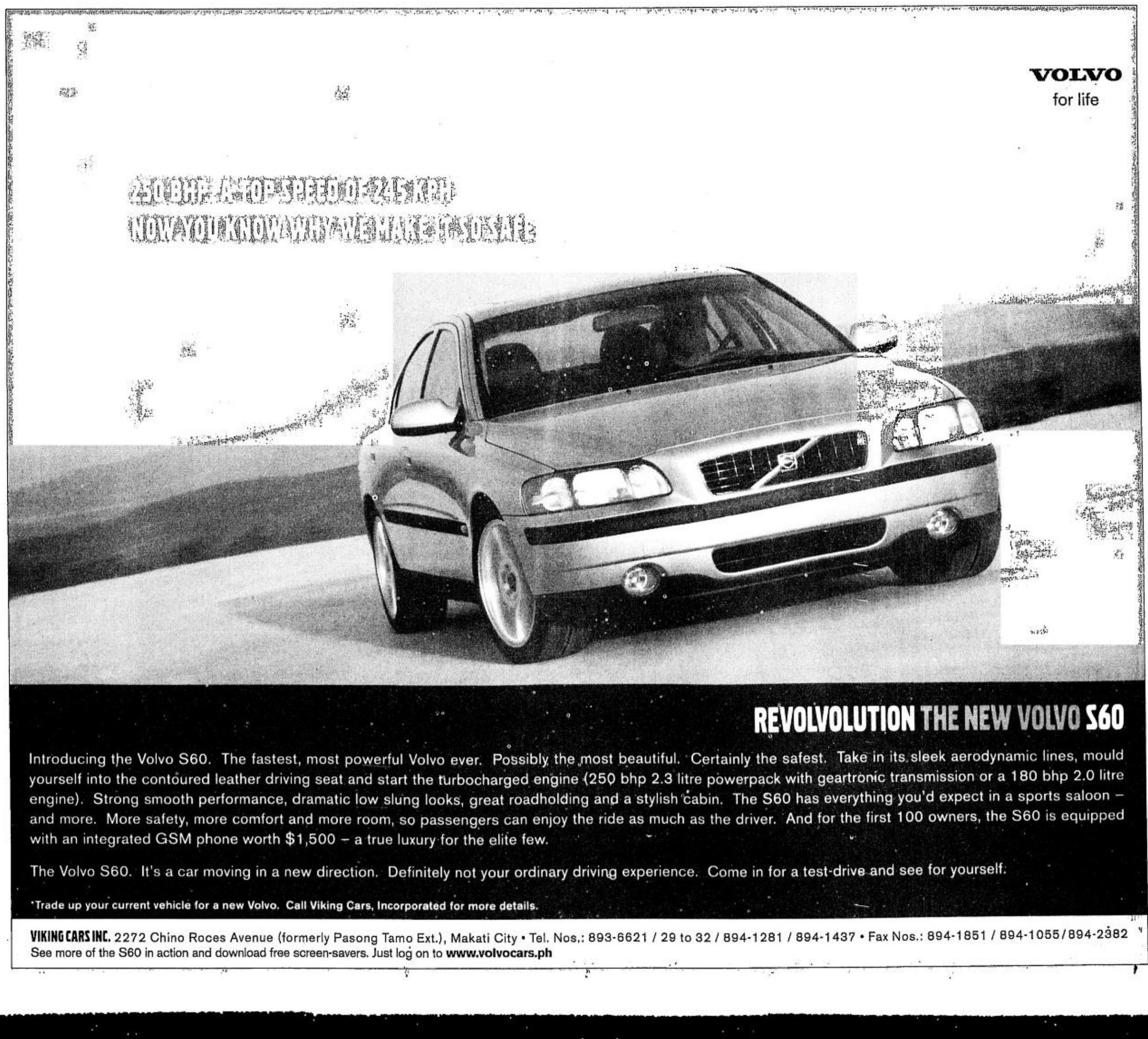
ROUNDUP

Media help asked

COTABATO CITY—Organizers of two big business conferences scheduled here next month asked the media to highlight the trade potentials of Central Mindanao and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. "We need the help of the media in promoting Mindanao to probable investors," Sohura Dimaampao, tourism regional director, said. Scheduled in August are the 9th meeting of the Working Group on Tourism Development that includes Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, and the 10th Mindanao Business Conference. ***Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Farmers to get land

SOME 560 farmer-beneficiaries will be installed in the next five months in Leyte after 35 former landowners voluntarily placed their landholdings under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, the Department of Agrarian Reform said in a press release Friday. Reynaldo Villas, DAR director for Eastern Visayas, said in a report to Secretary Hernani A. Braganza, that his office was preparing the takeover of farmer-beneficiaries in 167 landholdings in Ormoc City and Baybay, Monda, Kananga, Carigara and Matag-ob towns. Earlier, 1,000 beneficiaries were installed in 24 landholdings all over the Visayas during Braganza's first three months in office.



INQUIRER Mindanao
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor ■ NICO A. ALCONABA, Bureau Chief

The State of Mindanao Address

AS President Macapagal-Arroyo prepares for her State of the Nation Address (Sona) before the 12th Congress tomorrow, people of Mindanao already know in what kind of state they are in. Following are some of their views in the State of Mindanao Address (Soma)—Ed.

HADJI NUNG AJIHIL
Executive Assistant
to Chair Nur Misuari
Southern Philippines Council
for Peace and Development
MINDANAO remains afflicted with the vestiges of people wanting to perpetuate their interests at the expense of the Moros. There is nothing new with the Macapagal administration. The country is run by the same dogs, but with improvised collars.

VERBATIM

BENJIE PORNEL
Lawyer
Kidapawan City
IT'S a sorry state. Lives of people and government funds, energy and time are being depleted, not for a cause of national importance but for chasing indiscriminate robbers. Well, Mindanao now gets its fair share of government and world attention. We still have to see, though, how our local government can use this relative edge for Mindanao.

CHRISTOPHER BALANAY
Student
Western Mindanao State
University
AS if there never was an Edsa Dos.

JOEL VIRADOR
Secretary General
Karapatan-Southern Mindanao
THE PRESIDENT inherited the long-standing neglect of previous administrations which, up to now, is not being addressed by her administration. Although she claims to be the exact opposite of former President Joseph Estrada, we cannot see the actual implementation of pro-poor government programs.

What she is doing in Basilan should not be used as her formula in solving the problem. Foremost of all, grasping the historical roots of the Moro problem and the sincere resolution of the problem, instead of going out to war and running after the armed groups.

EID KABALU
Spokesperson
Moro Islamic Liberation Front
IT really needs a genuine recovery program after the all-out war. War-affected areas should be rehabilitated and economy development projects should be introduced to those affected by the war. These aspects should be given due attention by the Macapagal administration. Otherwise, all other activities for Mindanao will not take off.

Although her stance is similar to that of the previous administration in terms of moving the military, the President has pronounced a reversal of policy from all-out war to all-out peace. At least, it's a different policy.

ULAMA "MAESTRO" AKAD
Retired public school teacher
Datu Piang, Maguindanao
THE UNSTABLE peace and order condition in some parts of Mindanao is the main problem that is pushing the economy down. Unless we in the government act, the economic outlook of Mindanao will tend to be gloomier. President Macapagal-Arroyo's peace process with the Moro and communist rebels should be provided utmost attention so that we can move forward in developing the rich natural resources of the island.

LUIS RODRIGUEZ
Mechanic
Zamboanga City
MAS grabe man ta queda (It's worsening).

BOOTS CANTALOPEZ
Peace Educator
Notre Dame University
MINDANAO has ravaged natural resources, rights and people. It's under the spell of Manila politicians. The Mindanaoans are so educationally deprived that they don't even know that they are deprived. They don't know that they power the industries of the nation (e.g., Napocor) and get nothing in return.

MA. AMAPORO PEPITO
Instructor
Zamboanga A.E. Colleges
THE STATE of Mindanao has made me allergic to reading the papers.

KELLY DELGADO
Chair, National Union
of Students in the Philippines
Northern Mindanao
WE regret to inform the President that we are very disgusted at her failure to forward the youth agenda. Thus, we are giving her a negative 9 performance rate. I was one of those students who went to Malacañang and presented the youth agenda, yet she never fulfilled her promise to give a moratorium on tuition increases this school year.

GOV. MANNY PIÑOL
North Cotabato
MINDANAO is normal *(laughs)* . . . no, we are in a state of difficulty but we will overcome.

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. rated President Macapagal-Arroyo six on political stability and economy, and seven on law and order.

SEN. AQUILINO PIMENTEL JR.
Senate President
IT is not her (the President's) fault and it would be unfair to flunk her with regard to the present economic condition. On law and order, she has tried her best to stand out in the battle against the Abu Sayyaf, considering the human rights violations that might be committed.

CALOY BAUTISTA
Station manager, DxND
Kidapawan City
THE MAJORITY of the people is still poor and is becoming poorer because of the economic crisis. Their situation is made complicated by lawless groups like the Abu Sayyaf whose operations have necessitated military actions and have again plunged several areas into a war situation.

Kapitalista lang ang yumayaman sa Mindanao (Only the capitalists get richer in Mindanao).

MAYOR ANWAR BALINDONG
Malabang, Lanao del Sur
MINDANAO has practically everything for development purposes, except peace. In some areas, the state of development is faster compared with those of provinces bothered by rebellion and other security threats.

In Lanao del Sur alone, Malabang and other municipalities have no electricity although they have the main source of power. While far-flung areas in Mindanao benefit from the hydroelectric power plant of the Maria Cristina Falls, my own town does not have electricity. Police said bandits have been cutting down electric posts because the National Power Corp. has stopped giving them "protection money." So, how can Mindanao rise to the call that it is not only the land of promise but also of fulfillment?

NERO VALLAR
Regional coordinator, Bayan Muna
Northern Mindanao
UNDER the Macapagal administration, the economy has worsened as seen in the plunging peso-dollar exchange. In Misamis Oriental, nine establishments closed shop while two companies laid off hundreds of workers.

At the Philippine Veterans Industrial Development Corp. in Tagoloan and Villanueva, Misamis Oriental, thousands of workers were retrenched.

JENNIFER ESTACIO-SINCO
Humanities Professor
University of Southern Mindanao
THE LAST thing we need is war. But if this is necessary, *bilisan na ang pagsugpo sa mga terorista dito* (swiftly eliminate the terrorists). Development is slow *kasi ang sitwasyon ay walang kasiguruhan . . . alanganin* (because the situation is uncertain . . . doubtful).

PASTOR CALVIN TERRADO
United Evangelical Assembly
THE PEACE and order situation is very alarming. It looks like the government is fast becoming ineffective and weak.

Let's pray for Mindanao.

GENE PRISCO
Research and Education Officer
Northern Mindanao Labor Center
for Education and Research
IN MINDANAO, where most of the multinational agro-industrial companies are found, only a few workers have unions. In Caraga alone, where billion-peso mining industries and industrial tree plantations are located, only 51 unions are registered with the Department of Labor and Employment.

This condition of the workers is a mirror image of the plight of all Filipino workers.

What is the state of Mindanao? The denuded mountains, the depressed conditions of the workers and the militarized countryside indicate the lot we are in.

ADELLA PATRICIO
Businesswoman
Mati, Davao Oriental
IT'S relatively peaceful than before. With Estrada's all-out war against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front last year, we could hardly go into our farms in Tarragona town because of the military operations. I just hope the President has a heart for Mindanao by not letting it remain as a Land of Promise. I hope she completes her term as a pro-Mindanao President.

SOHURA DIMAAMPAO
Regional director,
Department of Tourism
Central Mindanao
THERE is a bright economic prospect for Mindanao despite the security setback, which can be resolved in the near future. The problems of insurgency, kidnap-for-ransom, extortion, robbery and other crimes will dissipate if the government and the private sectors can provide the people livelihood and employment.

Grace Cantal-Albasin, Alexander M. Young, Jeffrey M. Tupas, Joselle Badilla, Ma. Kristina Cassion, Ferdinand O. Zuasola, Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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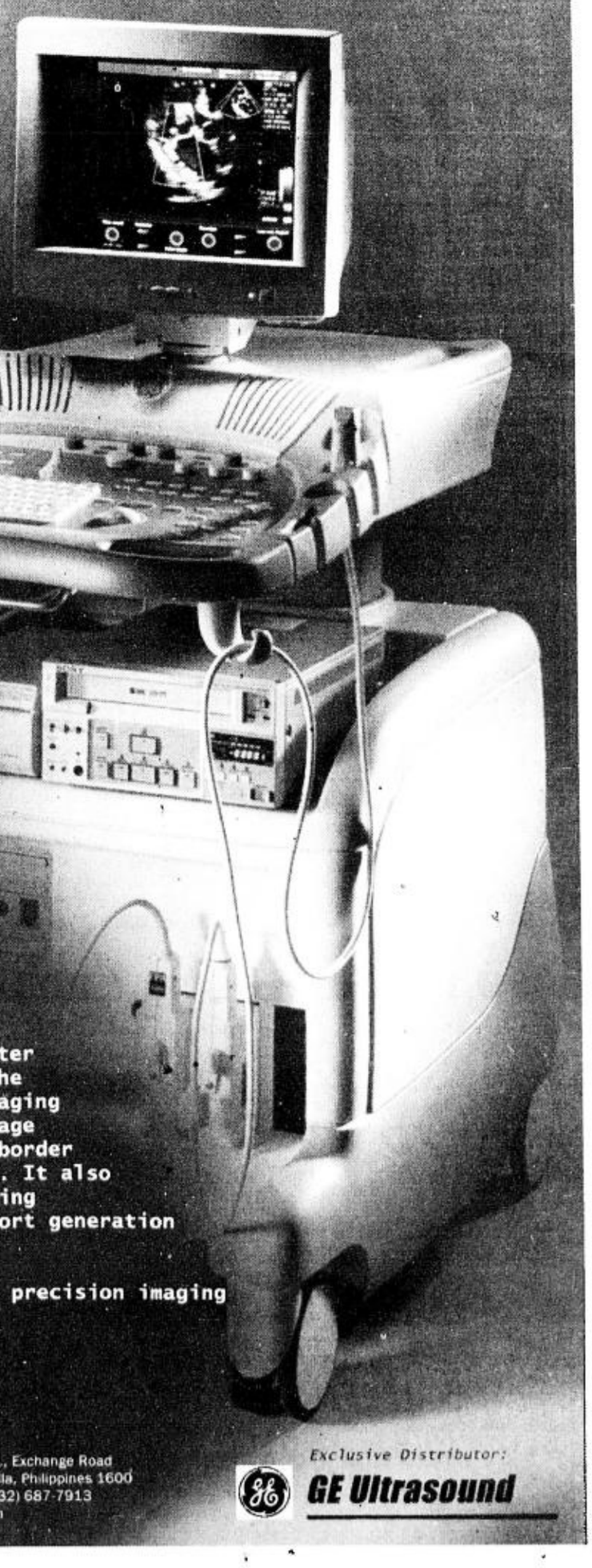

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DETAIL of Nemi Miranda's mural shows the INQUIRER masthead and "Juetengate" banner. ERNIE SARMIENTO

PPC unites in Senate

(From page A1)

Robert Barbers, Juan Flavier, Joker Arroyo, Ralph Recto, Francis Pangilinan, Manuel Villar, Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Ramon Revilla, Robert Jaworski and John Osmeña.

Angara withdraws

Angara, head of the opposition Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, said his group yesterday met with the Puwersa ng Masa senators at the Subic Bay Freeport and they all agreed to back Pimentel.

Those who reportedly signed up with the group were Senators Pimentel, Angara, Blas F. Ople, Rodolfo Biazon, Vicente Sotto III, Tessie Aquino-Oreta, Loi Ejercito-Estrada, Panfilo Lacson and Gregorio Honasan.

Angara said he withdrew his bid for the Senate presidency to unite the opposition behind Pimentel.

In a phone interview from Subic, Biazon said his group would have "a minimum of 14 votes on Monday."

"It will be an opposition majority," Biazon said of his group.

It wasn't still clear yesterday, however, how Senators Noli de Castro and Serge Osmeña would vote.

PPC deal

The break in the two-week-long squabbling in the PPC ended after Legarda opted to give way to Villar who was bent in getting the post of Senate pro tempore.

"I had to sacrifice my own interest for party unity," Legarda told the INQUIRER over the telephone.

"I was the key to the party unity. It would have broken up had I not given way to Villar," she added.

The so-called "House bloc"—Arroyo, Recto, Pangilinan and Villar—earlier threatened to withdraw their votes from Drilon if Villar did not get the post and John Osmeña, an independent, the powerful finance committee.

Fearing he would not get the finance committee, John Osmeña announced Friday that a "progressive" alliance of 17 administration, opposition and independent senators was ready to support Pimentel.

On Saturday morning, however, Legarda said that the House bloc dropped their opposition to Osmeña after she gave way to Villar.

Legarda will instead serve as Senate majority leader while Arroyo will get the blue ribbon committee.

"I wasn't elected to be a squabbling, bickering politician. I will not die for any position," she said.

John Osmeña was reportedly the first to sign the manifesto of support for Drilon and Cayetano.

"Drilon has the numbers already," Legarda said, adding that most of the 13 had already signed the manifesto as of Saturday noon.

Legarda said Pimentel's group would likely get 11 votes at the most.

Should Pimentel get reelected, however, Ople would retain his post as Senate pro tempore while Sotto would serve as majority leader.

Palace reaction

In Malacañang, President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson said she was still hoping the Senate would elect "the best Senate President."

Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao issued the statement in reaction to Flavier's warning that Pimentel would be reelected if the PPC didn't get its act together.

"We'll see. I understand there will be talks this weekend to finally determine (the People Power Coalition candidate)," Tiglao said.

He confirmed that the PPC senators had asked Ms Macapagal regarding her choice for Senate President.

"The senators have asked for her opinion and she gave it to them. But don't ask me about her opinion, it's a very private consultation as political leader not as President of the Republic," Tiglao said.

The President had met privately with some senators, including aspirants to the top Senate post. She reportedly gave Drilon her support.

Tiglao expressed confidence that the President would do her part to prevent the PPC's breakup in the Senate.

8 suspected robbers killed in Port Area

BY JEROME ANING

EIGHT suspected members of a robbery gang were killed yesterday evening in a reported encounter with Philippine National Police-Intelligence Group operatives at Port Area in Intramuros, Manila.

Supt. Jaime Karingal, leader of the police team, said the encounter took place on Bonifacio Drive near Anda Circle at around 6:30 p.m. while his men were trailing the suspects aboard a red Tamaraw FX.

Karingal said the victims were believed to be members of the Martilyo Gang, which specializes in hammering jewelry display cases. He said several members of the gang had earlier been arrested but were released from jail after posting bail.

He said the suspects were believed to have joined with other gang members to plan another heist but police got wind of their plans and placed them under surveillance.

According to Karingal, one of the establishments the suspects were planning to rob was a money changer's shop at the Traders Hotel in Malate.

He said the suspects were also believed to be behind several recent bank and pawnshop robberies in Metro Manila.

Karingal said the suspects probably sensed that they were being tailed by the police when their FX pulled over and one of the suspects alighted, with a .45 cal. pistol blazing away at the lawmen.

He said the policemen who were on board their own blue Tamaraw FX returned fire, riddling the suspects' vehicle with bullets. Seven of the suspects died on the spot. The eighth was rushed to the Ospital ng Maynila where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

"We could not afford to have any of our policemen hurt; these people are notorious," Karingal said in a radio interview over dzRH, by way of explaining why his men killed all the suspects.

He said the police feared the suspects might have had grenades and could have used them against the lawmen.

Karingal said that, in fact, Chief Insp. Lorimer Edran was shot in the left thigh during the exchange of fire. Recovered from the suspects' vehicle were five handguns and two Armalite rifles. It was not known if any grenades were found.

Gloria's Sona: 30 pages long in 30 minutes

(From page A1)

The President said she expected her Cabinet to deliver within 12 months "concrete, identifiable accomplishments in the fight against graft and corruption, cutting red tape and reducing the number of signatures (required) by one-half."

According to the President, while her husband, First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, does not help or advise her in matters of governance, his reaction does come in handy when it comes to her speeches.

"It's like a joke between us. If he can understand it, then it's fine. Mike helps me bring the technical language down to layman's terms," she said.

She confided that she had practiced delivering the Sona four times in front of the First Gentleman and once with the teleprompter.

"The first two times, he fell asleep," she said, laughing. "The third time, he did not."

By that time, presumably, the Sona had been cut from its original three hours to the current 30 minutes.

No sugarcoating

A Palace official said there would be no sugarcoating in the Sona.

"She will be frank and honest in discussing the state of the nation," said the official who declined to be identified.

The President said the improvement of moral standards and justice would be one of the major components of her speech, with the latter consisting of two parts: the enforcement of law and justice, and governance.

Foremost is to see the law enforced and justice done in the cases against ousted President Joseph Estrada.

For example, she said, "if sometimes I show concern for Estrada's personal circumstances, it's not because of a diminished determination to see justice done" but because of sensitivity to the feelings of his followers.

As for the battle against graft in government, she said, "I would like to make the Bureaus of Internal Revenue and Customs the showcases for fighting graft and corruption. I will express (in the Sona) my support for (BIR Commissioner) Rene Bañez and ask Congress to support him, too."

The Palace official noted that President Corazon Aquino called for political reforms; President Fidel Ramos, economic reforms; and Estrada, economic reforms for the poor.

"The President will continue economic reforms and will call for a moral revolution, a change from within," the official said.

Asked if she would extend the hand of reconciliation to the political opposition, including pro-Estrada senators, the official said: "She will call for unity."

Safeguards for the poor

As early as three weeks ago, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines said it wanted the President to deliver a Sona that would raise the hopes of the poor and ease their suffering.

Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, who has just been reelected CBCP president, said at a press briefing that she should present concrete plans of action for the country's workers and peasants in the face of the government's adherence to globalization.

Quevedo has joined the calls by civil society and militant labor groups for a wage increase for the work force. He said this would somehow ease difficulties in the current crisis.

Aside from steps to alleviate poverty, Quevedo said the CBCP would also want the President to air the specifics of the program of government that she outlined during her inaugural at the Edsa Shrine on Jan 20.

"My expectations of the next State of the Nation Address, well, there is really not much to report on except the government's response to crisis," Quevedo said at the briefing held at the CBCP headquarters in Manila.

"I would wish to (hear) more details of plans regarding the four points that the President enumerated as the vision of her government during her inauguration," he said.

These four points are: victory in the fight against poverty; high moral standards in society and government; political reforms *vis à vis* personality politics and the politics of party programs; and leadership by example.

The CBCP has just concluded its 82nd Plenary Assembly, wherein it announced as one of its main priorities the increased inclusion and participation of the poor in Church activities and programs. ***With a report from Norman Bordadora***

GMA to hold office . . .

(From page A1)

"In the rural areas, the program is to create 1-million new jobs through the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Program," the President said.

She added: "This is what I want to get from Montemayor. Within this year, he has to draw up the program and begin implementing it. One of the requirements is he must give a time-line to carry out the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Law, which has not really been carried out. The first year of implementation requires P20 billion, and that was never provided. We are providing it now."

The President said the program should have been implemented years ago.

"It wasn't in the budget because of the (figures concerning the costs of) irrigation and how many jobs it will create. If you spend P8 billion on post-harvest facilities and on irrigation, you can create 800,000 jobs. If you open 200,000 hectares of new agricultural land, you can create 200,000 new jobs. So therefore you concentrate on these expenditures and opening up those areas," she said.

"The DA will begin the program this year. I won't want a long-term thing. I want a timeline," she added.

Apart from the one million new jobs in the rural areas, the President said she had launched an emergency employment program for out-of-school urban poor youth of Metro Manila. One of these projects is the cleaning up of Edsa.

The name's Hernando, not Hernani

(From page A1)

The secretary of justice would good-humoredly like to remind everyone that his first name is Hernando.

His nickname may be Nani, but please, please do not make the mistake of calling him Hernani.

"Alam mo, ang bantot-bantot na nga ng pangalan ko, minamasaker pa. (You know, my name is funky enough without having to be massacred)," Nani Perez joked.

A big sign warning the public that the justice chief will not accept correspondence bearing any name but his correct one is now displayed prominently on the front door of his office at the Department of Justice building on Padre Faura Street in Manila.

"The name of the present secretary of justice is Hernando B. Perez, not Hernani or any appellation you give him," the notice declares.

"We will not be accepting any communication for the secretary if it erroneously bears his name (sic) unless the same is corrected to reflect his true name," it adds.

Perez has noticed that many legal and court documents, letters and other correspondence obviously meant for him use different names.

And worse, often he is referred to as Hernani Braganza, the secretary of agrarian reform—probably an honest mistake since they are both nicknamed Nani.

Perez says he is far from irritated, but "the situation creates a lot of confusion because my office usually receives letters and other documents meant for Nani Braganza. I receive letters like this all the time."

He added: "Besides, I fear that I might be accused of illegal use of an alias."

The secretary heads the group of government prosecutors tasked to prove allegations that former President Joseph Estrada used the alias Jose Velarde to open secret bank accounts to store money from jueteng collections and tobacco tax excise kickbacks.

Before the onset of an identity crisis takes place, Perez decided to post the sign on the front door of his office.

Surname

Ah, but wait, it's not over.

With his troubles stemming from his given name addressed, Perez has shifted his attention to his surname.

There are two Perezes in the Cabinet of President Macapagal-Arroyo: Nani, er, sorry, Hernando, and Energy Secretary Vincent Perez.

The justice secretary recalled that once, after a Cabinet meeting in Malacañang, he walked to the driveway outside the Palace and asked the guard to page his driver.

Hernando Perez then noticed a strange car pull up beside him. It was the vehicle of the energy secretary, whose driver had responded to the guard's call.

Soap to star 'Gloria Labandera' for nat'l cleansing

(From page A1)

Macapagal's claim that her maternal grandmother did other people's laundry to support the education of son Diosdado, who eventually became the country's ninth President.

"Little did (the grandmother) know that she would produce not only one but two Presidents of the Republic," Navarro said.

The "Gloria Labandera" nickname was first bestowed on the President in a ribald anti-Macapagal ditty sung by supporters of ousted President Joseph Estrada during Edsa III last April.

Ms Macapagal later thanked the Estrada supporters, saying she was proud to be descended from a laundrywoman.

The foundation saw promising inspirational material in that footnote in Ms Macapagal's genealogy.

"The *labandera* can symbolize any Filipina who does honest manual labor to support her family," Navarro said.

Self-help seminars

Ginintuan Foundation came up with the catchphrase "Alerta Labandera" to rename its long-running Parent Enrichment Service program, a series of self-help seminars for poor families in Metro Manila.

The seminars, which began in 1998, are conducted at the barangay level under guidelines set by the DSWD. Volunteer instructors have mostly come from the Catholic lay group Couples for Christ.

Lectures center on value formation, livelihood training, legal orientation on children's rights and protection against domestic violence—all meant to wean families from ignorance, unemployment and beggary, according to Navarro.

Organizers have also set aside an educational fund for street children and a capital assistance chest for parents planning to start a small trade or business.

The seminar has so far made "graduates" of 3,033 parents and around 4,800 street children in over 100 barangays in Metro Manila, Navarro said.

National assembly

During last month's graduation, the foundation "surprised" Ms Macapagal at a Malacañang function by presenting the latest graduating batch of mothers wearing Alerta Labandera T-shirts and aprons.

By then, the project had already come up with a jingle with lyrics by Navarro derived from an authentic Katipunan march and arranged by renowned pianist Raul Sunico.

The Alerta Labandera poster looks like a detergent bar advertisement, dominated by a sketch of President Macapagal, complete with the mole on the left cheek.

Alerta Labandera will have its first national assembly in August, Navarro said, though it has already been launched in targeted barangays.

"Who knows if history will repeat itself?" Navarro asked. "Maybe we can help produce another president from the bloodline of a laundrywoman."

Marilou Varona heads the Ginintuan Foundation as its president. The project director is Marilen Dinglasan, and the trustees include Leonila Mackay, Mary Anne Colayco, Cynthia Norton, Priscilla Gamboa, Hilda Antonio and Asuncion Villanueva.

Poor Kim; dwindling dividends

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

IT'S always heartening to see old jockeys scoring a win once in a while.

We're referring here to those whom kareristas dub as "once-in-a-blue-moon" jockeys. One of them is Honorato Kim Jr., who according to my Silip Boy probably tasted his last victory many, many years back.

Last Saturday proved to be no ordinary day for Kim.

In one of those very rare moments, Kim booted home a winner in Silver Angel, flagged off only as the fourth choice in Race 4 because it was Kim at the reins although the horse was the *pang ibabaw* of two Dividendazo tipsters.

As Silver Angel coasts to the wire, the camera focused on a broadly-smiling Kim as the Santa Ana crowd chorused in unison "*sa wakas nagpanalo rin*!"

But in a sudden twist of fate, Kim had a misfortune in Race 11. He was slapped a one-year suspension atop his only mount for the day Memorabilia.

According to the PRCI board of stewards, Kim was penalized for "deliberately losing the race when he kept preventing Memorabilia from taking the lead position in the entire course of the race."

Memorabilia eventually finished third in the race won by top pick Repertoire.

By now, Kim must be wondering why he got that severe penalty compared to L.I. Santos, a promising apprentice.

The very same stewards also suspended Santos but only for four racing weeks after he was "proven to be careless when he raced Friends at the outside lanes which caused him to lose ground and not to keep pace with the other runners. Friends, the outstanding favorite in Race 6 last Friday the 13th, wound up only second to Aringkingking.

Based on the stewards' report, Kim committed a lesser crime than Santos.

"But how come Kim got a one year ban and Santos only four racing weeks?" asked a fuming Howie Basilio, a racing buff from Proj. 6 who sometimes calls Kim as a Korean masquerading as a Filipino jockey.

The *bayang* kareristas are also at a loss. "*Ano na namang kapalpakan yan ng mga* stewards?. *Nasaan ang hustisya sa mga maliliit na hinete gaya ni* Kim?

I'm sure Ching Vicente likewise frowned on those nebulous decisions.

***

***Kareristas* can't seem to fathom why the dividends, particularly in the Pick 6 and Winner-Take-All, have decreased considerably the past few weeks.**

That abrupt change may be the cause of the five-day-a-week racing schedule and we heard a lot of horseowners are not favoring this setup.

Calling officials of the Manila Jockey Club and Philippine Racing Club.

TOURING CAR

Coseteng asserts supremacy

Overall standings after eight rounds:

1. J. Coseteng (Red Horse-Caltex-Eclipse-Team Tom's) 95 points; 2. N. Pazcoguin (Caltex-Auto Trend-Team Tom's) 75; 3. M. Ramirez (Petron-SRA) 66 points; 4. J. Yllana (Red Horse-Caltex-Eclipse-Team Tom's) 41; 5. F. Ong (Rota-Speedwelle-Outlast) 39; 6. M. Potenciano (MP Turbo) 29; 7. B. de la Cruz (Rota-Speedwelle-Outlast) 24; 8-10 L. Ramirez (Petron-SRA); K. Ramirez (Petron-SRA), M. Aguilar (Caltex) 20.

ROSARIO, Batangas—Defending champion Jody Coseteng of Red Horse-Caltex-Eclipse-Team Tom's asserted his mastery over the rest of the field to rule the seventh and eighth rounds of the Philippine National Touring Car Championship at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Coseteng defeated Mike Potenciano of MP Turbo in the seventh round and Nilo Pazcoguin of Caltex-Auto Trend-Team Tom's in the eighth round to keep the overall lead with 95 points under the 15-12-10-8-6 scoring system.

Pazcoguin is second with 75 points.

Former SVI-Petron Grand Prix champion Miguel Ramirez of Petron-SRA finished third in both races to move up to third place overall with 66 points.

"It's a good race. There were some anxious moments, but I really felt I will make it in the end," said Coseteng, who is also being supported by Bilstein, Camspeed, Llumar and Vitesse Auto Performance.

Boni hosts soccer meet

GAMES TODAY

8 a.m.—PAF vs FEU; 10 a.m.—Army vs St. Benilde; 1 p.m.—San Beda vs UAAP; 3:30 p.m.—Kaya vs PCU Taft

ARCHRIVALS Army and Air Force seek their second wins against separate rivals today at the resumption of the 1st Army-Utilco International Trading invitational football tournament at the Ascom field in Fort Bonifacio.

The Airmen meet FEU at 8 a.m., while the Armymen battle College of St. Benilde at 10 a.m.

Tuñacao vs WBC champ July 28

FORMER world flyweight champion Malcolm Tuñacao challenges reigning WBC international flyweight titlist Randy Mangubat on July 28 at the Casino Filipino in Parañaque.

Tuñacao is trying to erase the memory of his first-round knockout loss to Thailand's Pongsaklek Wonjongkam last March which was caused by his attempt to shed too much weight just before the bout.

Now, the 23-year-old Tuñacao vowed to dispose of Mangubat and use the WBC international crown as a stepping stone for his big comeback in the world division.

Their bout is part of the extravaganza dubbed as "Fist of Fury sa Casino Filipino-Parañaque" which will also showcase international title bouts between RP Junior flyweight champion Juanito Rubillar and Japanese Takahiro Mizuno, and bantamweight champ Ricky Gayama against Abner Cordero.

Cebu's Jovan Presbiterio will defend his RP junior flyweight title against challenger Sukarno Banjao of Cadiz City in the undercard.

Organized by Elorde International Productions headed by Gabriel "Bebot" Elorde, the event is supported by Thunderbird and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

Mosley favored

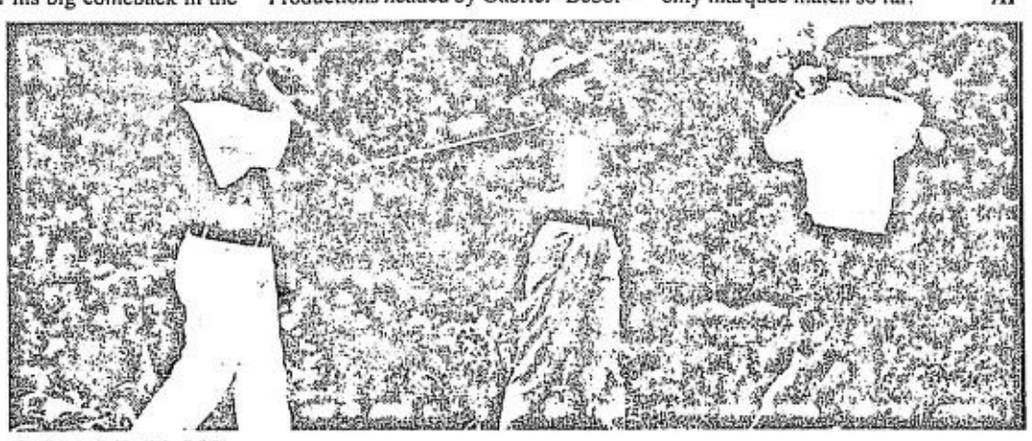
LAS VEGAS—Unbeaten, untied and still largely unnoticed, Shane Mosley defends his WBC welterweight title for the third time, facing the relatively unknown Adrian Stone today.

Mosley, who has not gained the fame of Felix Trinidad or Oscar De La Hoya, took the title from De La Hoya last year in Los Angeles in what was Mosley's only marquee match so far. *AP*

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Pride of Dita 2. Rio Rossa 3. Carlo's Charm 4. Alabang Girl/El Magnifico
Race 2—1. Foreign Exchange 2. El Condor 3. Pride of Mandaue 4. Red Anya
Race 3—1. Southern Gent 2. Lucky El 3. Contra Barata
Race 4—1. Anahaw 2. Gifted Angel 3. Ikaw Pag Asa Ko 4. His Excellency
Race 5—1. Gutmoore/Mr. Lucas 2. Gemstone 3. Top Quest 4. Avalanche
Race 6—1. Darth Vader 2. Red Thunder 3. Exceptional Charm
Race 7—1. My Preperido 2. Hyperbid 3. The Fox 4. Legend of Gala
Race 8—1. Speed Goddess 2. Staunch Ally 3. Noble Regent
Race 9—1. Morning Nell 2. Rosa Valentina 3. Read My Mind 4. Defense Minister
Race 10—1. Bold Freddy 2. Padron Real 3. Areesbee 4. Houdini
Race 11—1. Hingis 2. Aringkingking 3. Pretty Pleasing 4. Hinobaan's Pride
Race 12—1. Snake Dancer 2. Golden Tale 3. Puzzling Friend
Race 13—1. Woman's Task/Sunny View 2. Southern Skies 3. Ocean Friend 4. Full Blast/True to Life



GOV AT PLAY

Cotabato Gov. Manny Piñol, Sta. Lucia Realty and Development Inc. VP for Sales Mariza Santos-Tan and Davao del Norte Rep. Tony Boy Floirendo showing individual forms during the Rancho Palos Verdes Golf and Residential Estates Inaugural Tournament ceremonial tee off. The competition was sponsored during the opening of RPV's 18-hole championship golf course. RPV is a 164-hectare world-class development of Sta. Lucia Realty located in Davao City.

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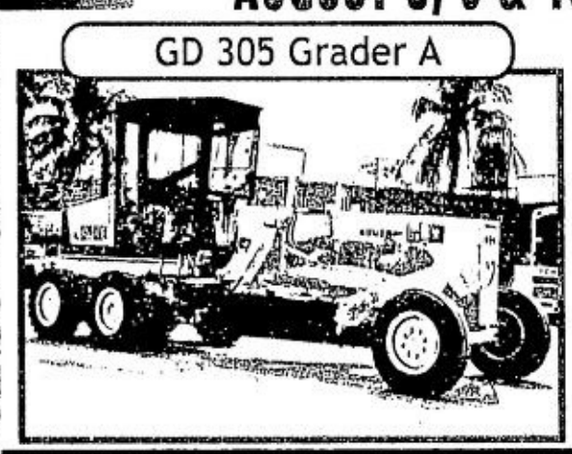

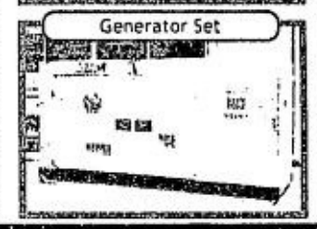

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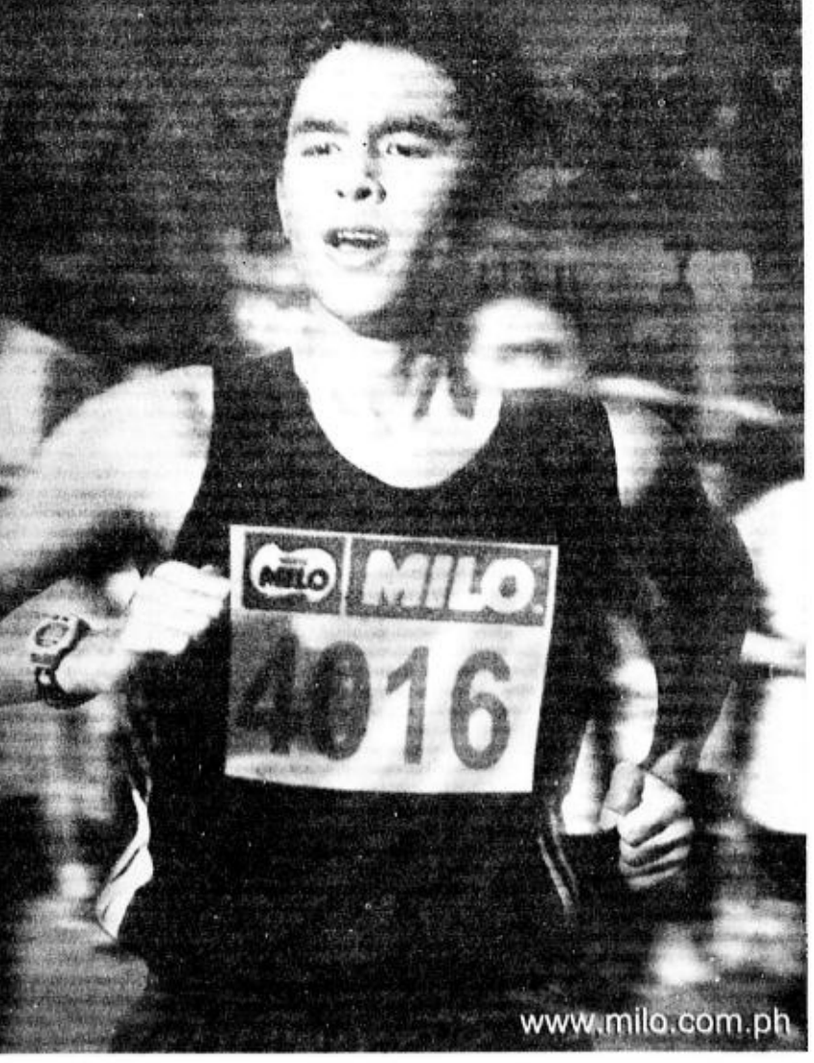

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LINING CRASHES OUT

Andam RP's last hope

THE PHILIPPINES' hopes now rest solely on Leonardo Andam.

Andam became the only survivor of a seven-man Philippine contingent when he entered the quarterfinals of the 2001 Admiral World Pool Championship Friday at the Cardiff International Arena in Cardiff, Wales.

The poker-faced Andam, the Iligan City pool *maestro* known as The Rattlesnake, hurdled Charlie Williams of the United States, 11-9, to reach the last eight of the $300,000 event.

But Antonio Lining was not as lucky. He bowed to Taiwan's Chia Hsiung Lai, 11-7, a fate suffered by Efren "Bata" Reyes in the Round of 32 when The Magician lost to Niels Feijen of The Netherlands, 9-5.

It was a sorry loss for Reyes, the 1999 champion, who was the favorite both of the crowd as well as the sportscasters.

Other Filipinos who had lost earlier were Ramil Gallego, Warren Kiamco, Francisco "Django" Bustamante and Rodolfo "Samson" Luat.

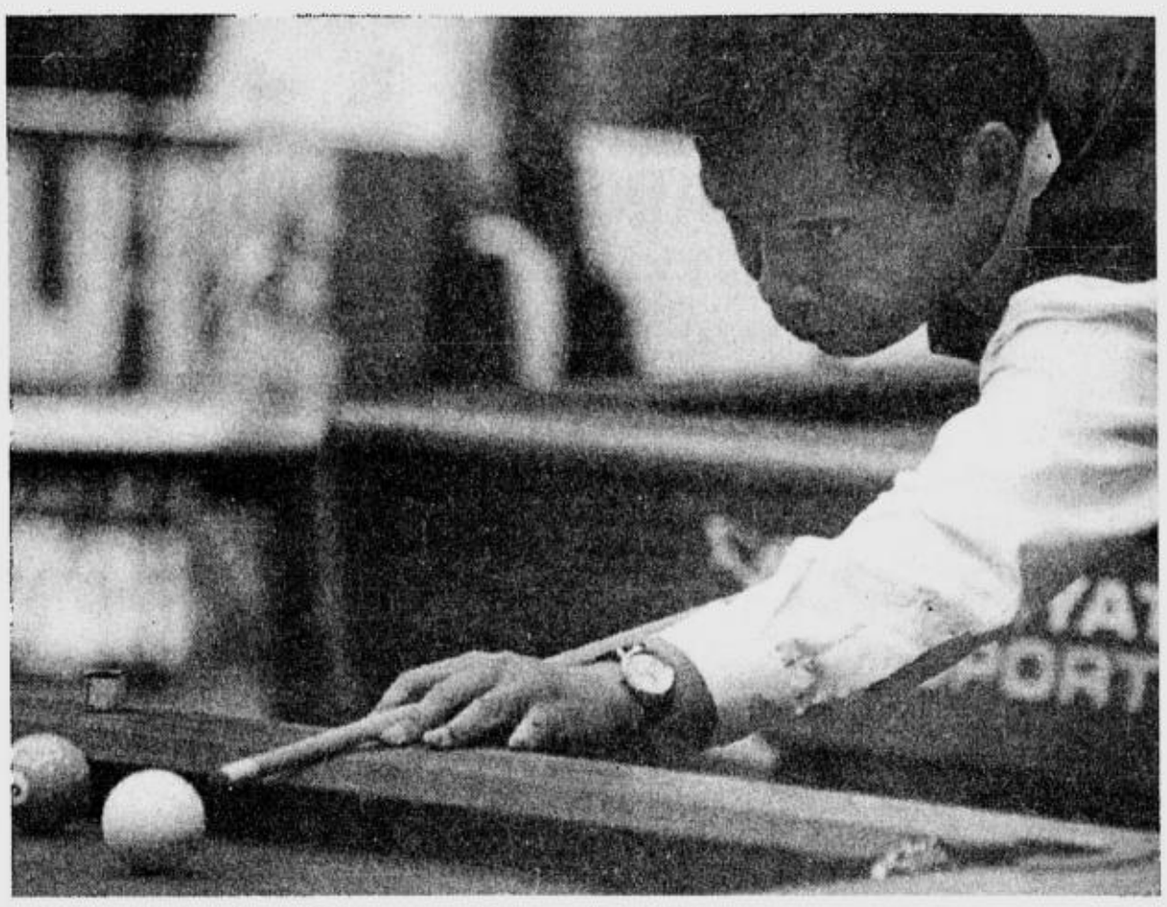
Leading 10-9, the 41-year-old Andam finished off Williams when he cracked home the 9-ball for the victory.

Andam's stint in the tournament has a dash of drama as his favorite cue stick got lost in a taxi just days before he left for Cardiff.

What he is using are two cue sticks loaned to him by Luverne Gueco, the INQUIRER's "The World" editor.

In the quarterfinals, also a Race-to-11 affair, Andam faces Canada's Alain "The Dancing Bear" Martel, who advanced by downing England's Chris Melling, 11-9.

Completing the quarterfinals cast were Jeremy Jones of the United States, Mika Immonen of Finland, Niels Feijen of Holland, Ralf Souquet of Germany and Marcus Chamat of Sweden.



ANDAM: His loaned cue stick has been doing wonders for him. FILE PHOTO

Saturday's matches (Q'finals, Race to 11)

Chia-hsiung Lai (Tai) v Jeremy Jones (USA)
Mika Immonen (Fin) v Niels Feijen (Hol)
Ralf Souquet (Ger) v Marcus Chamat (Swe)
Alain Martel (Can) v Leonardo Andam (Phi)

Round-of-16 results:

Leonardo Andam (RP) d. Charlie Williams (USA) 11-9
Chia Hsiung Lai (Taiwan) d. Antonio Lining (RP) 11-7
Ralf Souquet (Germany) d. Chin Shun Yang (Taiwan) 11-3
Marcus Chamat (Sweden) d. Andreas Roschkowski (Germany) 11-9
Mika Immonen (Finland) d. Anthony Ginn (England) 11-2
Niels Feijen (Netherlands) d. Ralph Eckert (Germany) 11-6.
Jeremy Jones (USA) d. David Alcaide (Spain) 11-9
Alain Martel (Canada) d. Chris Melling (England) 11-9

Father-and-son billiards today

THE National Sports Grill has decided to make Father and Son Billiards tournament a monthly affair. The July edition will be held today starting at 1 p.m., with P10,000 worth of merchandise at stake. Call 752-5431-32 for more details.

The real plague

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

LIKE golf, you can't play defense that much in billiards. Or pool as the Westerners love to call the game.

Like golf, you can't hurl your body to block a shot by your opponent in a billiards game. In billiards, the closest to playing defense is play safety—*plesing lang, brod*—which means bringing a ball out of your opponent's line of fire. Or line of target, if you wish to be aligned with the Tulfonatics: They have brains soaked in gunpowder. *Utak pulbura* they called them in that unlamented era that was martial law.

Can you take that, Mon?

Basically, billiards is all offense. Firing at will. You don't have bullets, goodbye. One miss, you die.

The best among the best earn the most colorful monickers: The Rattlesnake (Leonardo Andam), Earl "The Pearl" Strickland, The Stone-Faced Killer (Fong Pang Chao), The Knight Rider (Steve Knight), The Samson (Rodolfo Luat), Mika "The Iceman" Immonen and Francisco "Django" Bustamante to name only a few.

The Plague of The Hague?

He is Niels Feijen of The Netherlands. This 24-year-old, part-time disc jockey in The Hague, was the antidote to the ways of The Magician: Efren "Bata" Reyes, the 1999 world champion.

In knocking out our magician in the Round of 32 Thursday, The Plague of The Hague knocked the lights out of a nation eternally enamored with Bata. Did Joma Sison and Luis Jalandoni applaud from their Hague hideout?

Bata it was, with his cue stick as magic wand, who had served as glue to keep a fractious race together. Still is. We all stop to watch him sink those colored balls with savvy, like a golf gallery enthralled by a huge Tiger Woods tee shot.

He wasn't the emissary to Cardifff. He was the ambassador. Sent not by a Macapagal but by a Puyat (Putch and Popit). Hail the Puyat Brothers!

And Bata wasn't The Magician in Cardiff. He was **The Filipino.** Sportscasters called him "the most loved Filipino in the world."

And so, the Dutch Treat Bata got in Cardiff will never sit well with us. For, not to take away credit from Feijin but, The Plague from The Hague won it when Bata's magic potion couldn't even kill a Romeo.

Five times Bata broke, five times Bata found no pocket. How can a magician fail five times? Isn't billiards supposed to be a "one miss you die" thing?

You can't miss five times and hope to win, *bebe.*

I guess Houdini hounded Bata that night.

In 'cuffs and under the sea, Houdini, the greatest escape act in history, ran out of luck and died.

With luck also not on his side, Bata became the armchair artist against The Plague from The Hague.

Have you seen a cue artist seated win a billiards game?

Alas, not even The Magician could.

Five misses in a break. That's a lot in a Race to 9 format. That's like missing 10 free throws in the last 10 seconds of a basketball game and you were just behind by 2 points before the charities came. You eventually lose the game by one. Whoa!

The final result for Bata said it all: 9-5 for the Dutch. Bata's was but a photocopy of Houdini's case. Luck won't always be with you; you create it yourself or you die without having created it at all. Sadly for Bata, Lady Luck would not sit next to him this particular Thursday night. Not tonight, sweetie pie.

For our Bata, that was the real plague.

Monty hangs on; Woods 4 shots off

LYTHAM ST ANNES, England—Colin Montgomerie battled his way through a demanding second round of the British Open on Friday and emerged with a one shot lead.

The Scot, who began the day three clear, flirted with danger all the way for a one-under par 70 that took him to seven-under but the field was closing in.

Tiger Woods was four shots behind after a three-under 68 but it was Swede Pierre Fulke at one shot off Montgomerie who was the closest, boosted by four birdies in six holes around the turn.

Another Swede, Jesper Parnevik, American Joe Ogilvie and Englishman Greg Owen were a further shot back on five-under.

With Royal Lytham enjoying its most benign conditions of the week a whole series of players got within striking distance of Montgomerie's overnight mark of six-under only to be beaten back by the course's fierce finish.

Consequently the Scot still held top spot when he began his round at 2.20pm local.

Although he dropped a shot on the third to become one of a group on five-under he continued to play steadily and putt confidently to birdie six, 11 and 13—the second after a fortunate double bounce off a bunker wall—to get to eight-under.

But a drive into sand on the 15th led to a bogey five and further birdie chances went begging on the run-in as his putter lost the magic touch to allow the field to close-in.

Montgomerie said: "I got a couple of breaks and 70 is about what I deserved. But I have had an incredible reception all day and it's nice to have a late start-time on Saturday for a change." Fulke shot a 67 to go with his opening 69 and declared himself growing in confidence.

He has been in a slump since finishing second in the Accenture World Golf Championship Matchplay in Australia in January but the Swede said: "It's not that long ago since the matchplay so I know I can beat these guys. *Reuters*

Second round:

135—Colin Montgomerie 65-70
136—Pierre Faulke (Swe) 69-67
137—Jesper Parnevik (Swe) 69-68, Greg Owen 69-68, Joe Ogilvie (USA) 69-68
138—Alex Cejka (Ger) 69-69, Niclas Fasth (Swe) 69-69, Eduardo Romero (Arg) 70-68
139—Raphael Jacquelin (Fra) 71-68, Rory Sabbatini (Rsa) 70-69, Des Smyth 74-65, Brad Faxon (USA) 68-71, Mark O'Meara (USA) 70-69, Tiger Woods (USA) 71-68, Darren Clarke 70-69, Billy Andrea (USA) 69-70
140—Nick Price (Zim) 73-67, Loren Roberts 70-70, Vijay Singh (Fij) 70-70, David Love (USA) 73-67, Nicolas Vanhootgem (Bel) 72-68, Steve Stricker (USA) 71-69, Ian Woosnam 72-68, Bernard Langer (Ger) 71-69, JP Hayes (USA) 69-71,
141—Toru Taniguchi (Jpn) 72-69, Billy Mayfair (USA) 69-72, Brandel Chamblee (USA) 72-69, Richard Green (Aus) 71-70, Justin Rose 69-72, Padraig Harrington 75-66, Miguel Angel Jimenez (Spa) 69-72, Paul McGinley 69-72, x-David Dixon 70-71
142—Phil Mickelson (USA) 70-72, Retief Goosen (Rsa) 74-68, Frank Lickliter (USA) 71-71, Barry Lane 70-72, Peter Lonard (Aus) 72-70, Sergio Garcia (Spa) 70-72, Chris DiMarco (USA) 68-74, Carlos Franco (Par) 71-71, Mark Calcavecchia (USA) 72-70, Ernie Els (Rsa) 71-71, David Duval (USA) 69-73, Paul Lawrie 72-70, Gordon Brand Jnr 70-72

DELASIN

Delasin 7 shots behind

NEW ROCHELLE, New York–Karen Stupples capped a 5-under-par 66 with a 3-meter (10-foot) birdie putt Friday and moved into a share of the lead of the LPGA Big Apple Classic with first-round leader Nancy Scranton.

Dorothy Delasin fired another even-par-71 to stay 7 shots behind the leaders. She was at 142 in a tie with 11 others in the $950,000 event. Jennifer Rosales shot a 77 and, adding her 80, was at 157 to miss the cut. Rosales was just two shots ahead of the last-placed Lenore Rittenhouse (78-81=159).

Stupples, who has one top-10 finish this year and stands 90th on the money list, had her sixth birdie of the day on the closing par-5 to join Scranton at 7-under 135 after two rounds on the 5,607-meter (6,161-yard) Wykagyl Country Club course.

Letran stops Perpetual; Benilde bows to Mapua

Games Tomorrow (Rizal)
12nn—PCU vs SSC (jrs/srs)
3 p.m.—San Beda vs JRC (jrs/srs)

BY JUNE NAVARRO

LETRAN survived Chester Tolomia's 33-point outburst to repulse University of Perpetual Help-Rizal, 81-72, yesterday in the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

It was a day of shockers as Mapua shaded defending champion College of St. Benilde, 66-60, in the other seniors' game to tie its victim at 2-2.

Rookie Ismael Junio anchored the Knights' dazzling finishing kick, scoring 9 of his 23 points in the homestretch to help his team chalk up its third consecutive victory in four starts.

A Pangasinan native who walked into the Knights' pre-season training camp, Junio dished out another impressive performance after scoring 29 and 30 points against PCU and San Beda, respectively.

"The core of the team is composed of talented rookies. Surely, we will go a long way," said Letran coach Binky Favis, who steered the Knights to a back-to-back title in 1999.

More importantly, the victory was even sweeter because the Knights have never won against the Altas since 1999, the year Favis took over Letran's coaching reins.

Unsinkable as ever, Tolomia electrified the crowd with his alley-oop dunks and torrid long-range jumpers but failed to get a favorable response from the rest of his teammates.

Gilbert Malabanan, the other half of Perpetual's two-man wrecking crew, had sort of taken the day off, putting the Altas' fight on Tolomia's shoulders.

The scores

MAPUA 66—Sta. Maria 16, Feliciano 15, Marucot 9, Lagar 9, Tiongco 5, Martin 3, Guevarra 3, Roxas 2, Maneclang 2, Dula 2, Bangoy 2, Silva 1, Buyco 0.

ST. BENILDE 60—Salvacion 18, Salvador 11, Capati 6, Menor 6, Mendoza 6, Castro 6, Coching 4, Magsumbol 3, Tolentino 0, Reyes 0.

Quarters: 24-20, 43-35, 54-43, 66-60.

LETRAN 81—Sta. Cruz 24, Junio 23, Enrile 10, Moreno 8, Misolas 5, Moody 4, Sillona 4, Ayo 3, Syhongpan 0.

UPHR 72—Tolomia 33, Malabanan 12, Cosme 10, Jensen 6, Cuenco 6, Ibrahim 3, Hawkins 2, Quiazon 0, Alejandro 0.

Quarters: 13-22, 43-38, 60-59, 81-72

Adidas Streetball resumes in Davao

THE ADIDAS Streetball Challenge resumes today at the Rizal Park and Gaisano Mall in Davao City.

Some 450 teams from six provinces, led by Davao City, began play yesterday in five events where the winners qualify for the Adidas Streetball Challenge 2001 finals in Manila next month.

Organizers were surprised by the tremendous response this year, and had to turn away 110 teams during Thursday's cutoff at the PTA grounds in Davao City.

"It's a shame that we had to turn them away," said Adidas Streetball Challenge Mindanao coordinator Vic Sai. He said all provincial entries were accommodated.

Adidas Philippines sales and marketing director Sonny Nebres attributed the event's popularity to the prizes and a chance to travel abroad for the winning squads.

Zamboanga City has fielded four teams, including a senior crew led by Paul Kong of Zamboanga AE College. Kong captained the Zambo City squad which won the National Finals last year over an NCR selection.

Kong's AE College sent two other teams. Two squads each came from Cagaya de Oro City, Davao Oriental, North Cotabato and General Santos City. Butuan City also fielded a team.

A total of 15 teams, the biggest so far, are also competing in the debuting Streetball on Wheels event. Thirteen are from Davao, with two from Iligan City.

Eliminations have taken place at NCR and Visayas. Aside from qualifying for the National finals, set Aug. 18-19 in Manila, the winning teams will take home P5,000 in cash prizes and P10,000 worth of Adidas sports gear.

US BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	54	42	.562	—
Philadelphia	53	43	.552	1
Florida	50	47	.516	4 1/2
New York	44	54	.449	11
Montreal	43	54	.443	11 1/2
Central	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Chicago	55	40	.579	—
Houston	53	42	.558	2
St. Louis	48	47	.505	7
Milwaukee	43	52	.453	12
Pittsburgh	37	58	.389	18
Cincinnati	35	61	.365	20 1/2
West	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Arizona	55	41	.573	—
Los Angeles	54	43	.557	1 1/2
San Francisco	52	45	.536	3 1/2
San Diego	46	51	.474	9 1/2
Colorado	41	55	.427	14

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	56	40	.583	—
New York	56	40	.583	—
Baltimore	41	53	.436	14
Tampa Bay	30	67	.309	26 1/2
Central	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Minnesota	58	38	.604	—
Cleveland	54	40	.575	3
Chicago	46	48	.489	11
Detroit	43	51	.457	14
Kansas City	37	59	.385	21
West	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Seattle	69	27	.719	—
Oakland	51	45	.531	18
Anaheim	47	48	.495	21 1/2
Texas	40	55	.421	28 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Florida 5, Cincinnati 3;
Philadelphia 10, N.Y. Mets 1;
Montreal 6, Atlanta 3;
Houston 5, Chicago Cubs 2;
Pittsburgh 4, St. Louis 1;
Colorado 11, Los Angeles 3;
San Diego 11, Milwaukee 2;
San Francisco 1, Arizona 0.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Detroit 7, Cleveland 3;
Toronto 10, N.Y. Yankees 4;
Texas 4, Tampa Bay 1; Seattle 4, Minnesota 0; Boston 7, Chicago White Sox 2; Oakland 14, Kansas City 3; Anaheim at Baltimore, ppd., dangerous conditions. *AP*

Retuerto enjoying finest golf season

THE PAST three weeks have been nothing but incredible for Roger Retuerto, more known as a golf teacher than as a parbuster.

Retuerto pulled off a couple of surprises that made him feel "young" again, goading him to think he could challenge his most famous student, Frankie Miñoza, to one-on-one duel.

First, Retuerto made the cut in the Philippine Open despite severe conditions at the rain-battered Wack-Wack.

Two weeks later, he was clutching a big trophy as winner of the Seniors division of the College Assurance Plan-Legends Classic at Manila Southwoods.

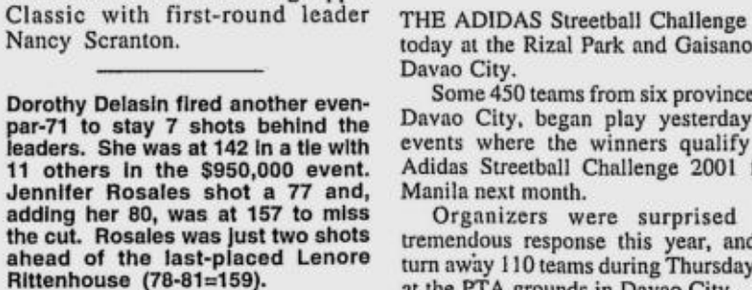
While it was Retuerto's first taste of the Open's weekend play in almost two decades, the victory at Southwoods ended what he called a "mini slump" two years after winning the Tat Filipinas leg of the now defunct Ericsson Tour.

"The past three weeks have made me feel 20 years younger. I proved to myself that I can still play with the young pros if I can only stay healthy," said Retuerto, now 54.

Retuerto's steady rounds of 74-72 gave him a four-stroke victory over Boy Legaspi. He was way ahead of Mario Siodina and Roger Antonio, two legends who have turned the previous four legs of the circuit into their personal rivalry.

More significantly, Retuerto also figured well in the regular division won by Cassius Casas.

For Retuerto, life has been an up-and-down ride for the past five years. One of his most painful setbacks was the loss of his son Roger Angelo to leukemia. He picked up the pieces of that tragedy to strengthen family ties and provide for his remaining four children.



RETUERTO (left) receiving the trophy from Enrique Sobrepeña, head of College Assurance Plan. ROGER MARGALLO

He has been on the lookout for whatever problems that may arise with the swing of Miñoza. Like a doctor on call, he would have to go to Del Monte if he needs to.

Lately, however, he's been thinking of asking Miñoza for an advice if he is good enough to take a crack at the Japanese Tour. "Just kidding," he said.

Sporting arms show

THE ASSOCIATION of Firearms and Ammunition Dealers of the Philippines Inc. (Afad) and Tradeshow International Inc. will hold the 2001 Defense & Sporting Arms Show at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall B, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City on Aug. 1-5. The show's thrust is bent on eliminating illegal gun ownership in the country. It is sponsored by Wireless Solutions, Total Security Systems Inc., 105.1 Crossover, 89.9 Magic, 99.5 RT, Citylite 88.3, Pioneer and BMB Karaoke Superband.

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

BILLIARDS: World Professional Pool Championships 2001 - Day 8, Quarterfinals 1st Session at 11 a.m. (r), 2nd Session at 2 p.m. (r), Day 9, Semifinals at 9 p.m., Final tomorrow at 2 a.m. on ESPN
GOLF: PGA B.C. Open, Third Round at 1 p.m. on Star Sports
Golfglobe 2001 at 5:30 p.m. on Star Sports
CYCLING: 2001 Tour De France Highlights Stage #13 at 1:30 p.m. (r –7:30 p.m.) on ESPN
MOTOR SPORTS: CART Molson Indy at 9 a.m. (r) on ESPN
FIM World Motorcycle Championship at 6:30 p.m. on Star Sports
SBK Superbike Magazine Highlights at 8:30 p.m. on ESPN

Van Exel's mother shot

INDIANAPOLIS—The mother of NBA guard Nick Van Exel was ambushed outside her apartment early Friday and shot four times, police said. Joyce Van Exel, 47, was recuperating in an Indianapolis hospital. The woman was shot once in the face, twice in the chest and once in the leg, but her wounds were not life-threatening, said Maj. Mike Turk of the Marion County Sheriff's Department.

SundaySPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ■ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Lakers sign up Richmond

LOS ANGELES —Shooting guard Mitch Richmond, who became the 26th player in NBA history to score 20,000 career points last season, has signed a one-year contract with the Los Angeles Lakers. Terms were not announced, and the deal is contingent upon Richmond passing a physical Monday. Mike Sharp, Richmond's agent, did not return phone calls.

UE upsets La Salle; UST wins

GAMES TODAY *(Loyola Gym)*
11:30 a.m.—UP vs NU (jrs)
2 p.m.—UP vs NU (srs)
4 p.m.—Ateneo vs FEU (srs)

BY DENNIS U. EROA

LIGHTLY regarded University of the East jolted the UAAP Men's Basketball championship yesterday with a stunning 79-58 victory over defending champion La Salle at the Loyola Gym.

Hardly given a second look after losing by 20 points against NU, 94-74, last July 14 at the Araneta Coliseum, the Red Warriors turned the basketball world upside down with a rare display of aggressiveness spiked by tenacious defending which rattled the Green Archers no end.

The last time the Recto-based dribblers beat their Taft counterparts happened in 1996, when the Francis Rodriguez-mentored team scored a 77-71 win.

In the other senior game, University of the Sto. Tomas brushed aside Adamson's challenge, 66-54, and barged into the win column. The Tigers lost their first game, 66-59, against powerhouse Far Eastern University last July 14 at the Big Dome.

"We caught La Salle off-guard," said UE coach Boysie Zamar, who also coaches both the national and the Socsargen team.

But coach Franz Pumaren, author of La Salle's last three titles, was straight to the point, blaming overconfidence for the debacle which was the Archers' worst since taking an 80-55 beating from Ateneo on Sept. 14, 1996.

Derick Hubalde, Emerson Oreta, Nino Gelig and Jake Agleron finished in double figures as UST sent Adamson to its 22nd straight loss. The Falcons last tasted a win on Aug. 19, 1999, when they beat the FEU Tamaraws, 89-81, at the Loyola Gym.

"We are lacking in experience," said UST mentor Aric del Rosario, who steered the Tigers to the ``four-peat" from 1993 to 1996. No longer playing for UST are veterans Cyrus Baguio, Mel Latoreno, Gilbert Lao and Kenneth Co.

Earlier, Muhammed Abuhjileh shone as the Adamson Baby Falcons recovered from a 0-16 start to trip the UST Tiger Cubs, 66-60, for their second straight win.

Martin Urra and Paolo Sulit led La Salle Zobel to a 70-49 crushing of the UE Pages in the other junior encounter.

First Game

UST 66—Hubalde 18, Oreta 15, Gelig 13, Agleron 11, Manching 2, Naninga 2, Luanzon 2, Villamin 2, Espiritu 1, Manansala 0, De Guzman 0.

Adamson 54—Rolan 17, Tagupa 12, Abadia 6, Mamaclay 6, Yong 5, Ferrer 4, Mangulabnan 4, Hate 0, Taylor 0.

Quarters: 24-7, 32-39, 49-40, 66-54.

Second Game

UE 79—Yap 20, Tubid 13, Estrada 12, Alminario 11, Omiping 10, Artadi 9, Booker 2, Masbang 2, Hubalde 0, Butel 0.

LA SALLE 58—Ritualo 13, Ramos 11, Bunyi 9, Wilson 8, Sta. Maria 7, Cortez 4, Cardona 4, Cabatu 2, Yeo 0, Gozum 0, Valnio 0, Arejola 0.

Quarters: 19-19, 41-29, 61-50, 79-58.

LBC Batangas seeks fifth versus Negros

Team Standing—LBC Batangas 7-2, Negros 9-3, Andoks San Juan 8-3, Cebuana Lhuillier 8-4, FedEx Laguna 4-6, Nueva Ecija 2-7, Davao 2-8, Socsargen 2-9.

GAMES TODAY (La Salle Lipa Gym)
3 p.m.—Davao vs FedEx Laguna
5:30 p.m.—Negros vs LBC Batangas

LBC Batangas seeks to extend its amazing run to five as it clashes with powerhouse Negros in a return match today in the first phase of the 2001 MBA season at the La Sale Gym in Lipa City.

Based on percentages, the Blades are currently atop the heap with a 7-2 slate, slightly ahead of the Slashers, who skidded to second place on a 9-3 record following Friday's 92-80 win by LBC Batangas over Davao.

More than keeping their grip of the top spot, LBC Batangas coach Nash Racela and his boys are raring to avenge their 79-90 setback to Negros on June 20 in a game when they blew what could have been an easy win.

"We're looking forward to this game considering that we're fighting for the solo lead," said LBC Batangas coach Nash Racela, who plays Negros at 5:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, FedEx Laguna hopes to bounce back from a 100-105 loss to defending champion Andok's San Juan at home as it takes on Davao at 3 p.m. in their first match of the season.

The Lakers are shakily occupying fifth spot with a 4-6 slate and a win today would give them a three-game cushion over the Nueva Ecija Patriots (2-7), the Eagles (2-8) and the Socsargen Marlins (2-9) in the race for the last spot in the next round.

RP skaters to US tilt

THE 39-STRONG SM-Philippine ice skating team is set to leave on July 27 to compete in the 2001 ISI World Recreational Team Championship in Columbus, Ohio set on July 30-Aug. 4.

The Filipino skaters, supported by SM, Pepsi, Philippine Airlines and Adidas, will try to improve their impressive fourth place finish in last year's competition held in Minneapolis. The SM Philippine ice skating team hauled 72 gold medals, 38 silvers and 19 bronzes for a total of 593 points behind champion Plymouth Ice Center-Minnesota.

More than 100 teams around the world are expected to compete in the six-day competition sanctioned by the Ice Skating Institute (ISI). Ice Skating Union of the Philippines (ISUP) secretary general Mario V. Gonzalez is the Filipino skaters' head of delegation along with veteran coaches Eric Navalta, Dave Alarcon, Arnel Roselo and Bong de la Cerna.

PBA All-Star today; Meneses, Aquino excluded

GAME TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
6 p.m. – All Star Game (Veterans vs RSJ)

THE BIGGEST and the brightest stars of the PBA converge today for the annual All-Star Game but what would probably make the most noteworthy spectacle are the ones who won't be there: Two-time All-Star MVP Vergel Meneses and Marlou Aquino.

So don't expect flashy baseline glides from the high-leaping Meneses or Aquino's flailing arms underneath. Instead, brace yourself up for Olsen Racela's methodical ball-handling, Chris Jackson's no nonsense defense and Poch Juinio's stiffness in the shaded area.

Meneses and Aquino were dropped by the eight coaches who were tasked to complete the selection of the lineups—outside of the starting fives which were handpicked by fans—for the Veterans and the youngsters collectively known as Rookie/Sophomore/Juniors.

Meneses copped the MVP title in 1998 when he steered the RP Centennial Team to a 2-0 win in the All-Star series over the PBA Selection. Before that, the 32-year-old Ginebra stalwart won the plum after leading the Veterans over RSJ (112-107) in 1995.

He has been in eight All Star games, while Aquino has been to four stagings of the event that traditionally gives premium more to showboating than winning.

But the 6 p.m. game won't be lacking of crowd-pleasers because Alvin Patrimonio, Kenneth Duremdes, Johnny Abarrientos, Danny Ildefonso and Jun Limpot will be on hand to frontline the Veterans squad, who has won the past two All-Star games.

Backing them up are Jeffrey Cariaso, Noy Castillo, Dennis Espino, Ali Peek, Jackson, Racela and Juinio.

Mark Caguioa, the leading contender for the Rookie of the Year honors, will banner RSJ alongside Danny Seigle, Rudy Hatfield, Dondon Hontiveros and Ronald Magtulis.

Backing them up are Jayjay Helterbrand, Kerby Raymundo, Asi Taulava, Gherome Ejercito, John Arigo, Don Allado and Devon Harp.

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Teener runs over driver

PEDICAB driver Alfredo Repangcol Jr., 39, of Barangay Marcelo, Parañaque, died of head injuries when a Toyota Corolla driven by a 17-year-old boy hit his pedicab and ran over him in Parañaque at 8 p.m. Friday. The youth, of Maywood Village, Parañaque, promised to shoulder the funeral expenses. It was not immediately known if he was drunk during the accident or if charges would be filed against him. *Alcuin Papa*

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Ex-workers rob cargo firm

CARMEL Cargos Corp., along Franco Drive in Bagong Bayan, Taguig, lost P120,000 in payroll money to four robbers who struck around 11 a.m. Friday. Secretary Ma. Theresa Villaruel said she was putting money in pay envelopes when former Carmel workers Diogenes Galano of Taytay, Rizal, and Jay Prudencio of Sucat, Parañaque, pointed guns at her and ordered her to put the payroll money in a bag. *Alcuin Papa*

ROTC cadets to stage 'biggest' walkout

BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA

RESERVE Officers Training Corps (ROTC) cadets would stage "the biggest walkout" today and students from various Metro Manila schools vowed to join them in lobbying for the abolition of the compulsory military training in college.

To stress its stand against ROTC, the group called Abolish!, which calls for the scrapping of the program, has scheduled activities such as tree-planting and a clean-up of streets in place of today's ROTC training sessions.

A protest march will be escorted by Metro Manila Development Authority chair Benjamin Abalos, a strong proponent of optional ROTC, who will also supervise the clean-up of Metro Manila's streets, according to Abolish! convenor Cristina Palabay.

She said at least 500 students and cadets from the university belt would join the protest assembly in front of the Jubilee gate of the University of Santo Tomas along España.

Another assembly would be at the busy Monumento in Caloocan City for the northern metropolitan schools such as University of the East-Caloocan, Gregorio Araneta Foundation University, Caloocan City Polytechnnic College, St. Louie-Valenzuela, and computer schools STI and AMA.

Palabay said Abolish! was still trying to convince the more conservative Loyola-based schools, such as Ateneo de Manila University and Miriam College, to join today's walkout.

"We have no problem with the students of all colleges and universities because they support the abolition of RTOC and are willing to join the walkout, but we have to hear from the school administrators," Palabay said in a phone interview.

The students will bring cleaning implements to be distributed to uniformed cadets, who will lead the clean-up, according to Abolish!

A series of walkout on different campuses has been held since June to protest against alleged abuses in the ROTC.

Even the Department of Education, Culture and Sports as well as the Commission on Higher Education are lobbying for optional military training.

Both DECS and CHEd said the students should be given more useful alternatives to ROTC, like civic work and other social welfare activities.

Woman found strangled inside motel

BY JEROME ANING

MANILA police are looking for the boyfriend of a 22-year-old woman found strangled with the strap of her own handbag in a motel room in Sta. Cruz on Friday.

Katherine Suba, of 425 Concha Street, Tondo, was already dead when attendants found her around 6:30 a.m. Friday in Room 205 of the Golden Bird Motel at the corner of Rizal Avenue and Yuseco Street.

Suba's father Rogelio told police his daughter was supposed to leave for Japan next month.

Suba and a male companion, who registered as "Jerome Ibay" on the motel logbook, checked in about 10 p.m. Thursday, according to the motel cashier.

Motel workers recognized Suba because she was a frequent customer, according to SPO4 Solomon Bataller of the Western Police District homicide section.

The workers described her companion as handsome, between 26 and 28 years old, about 5-feet-7 and wearing a checkered polo shirt and brown slacks.

About 4 a.m. Friday, Ibay went to the motel counter and asked cashier Elvier Monteverde for a duplicate key. The man claimed he left an important document in the room and he could not wake up his girlfriend because she was drunk and already asleep.

A roomboy accompanied the man, who went into the room and retrieved something. The man then left the motel saying he would buy cigarettes.

Police said Suba was probably dead at that time.

When the man did not return after an hour, the motel workers became suspicious. They knocked on the room and, when no one answered, forced it open.

They found the woman's head jammed between the grills of the metal bed and the strap of her leather handbag was looped around her neck. There were also finger marks on her neck, the workers said.

2 jeepneys pin girl, 10, to death

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

CAMILLE Carla Itum, 10, was pinned to death between two passenger jeepneys in Caloocan City Friday night.

Itum, of 416 General Luna St. in Barangay Bayan-bayanan, Malabon and a Grade V pupil at the Concepcion Elementary School, was killed while her neighbor Susan Jamon was injured in the vehicular accident, said Supt. Victor Ronquillo, Caloocan Traffic Enforcement Unit chief.

They were walking between two parked jeepneys when a moving jeep, driven by Eduardo Legazpi, 50, of 56 Paco St. in Obando, Bulacan, bumped one of the parked jeeps, pinning the two victims, Ronquillo added.

He said the accident happened at 7:35 p.m. while Itum, Jamon and a certain Joji were walking home from the Ever Gotesco Grand Central Mall. They passed between the two jeeps which were parked inside the Victory Liner Compound in Monumento.

The drivers of the two jeepneys, Ocar Gabriel, 45, and Joey Belen, 35, were eating at a nearby eatery, Ronquillo said.

ABS-CBN exec in sexual harassment case

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

THE ABS-CBN television network senior executive vice president for sales and marketing has been accused by his former secretary of sexual harassment.

The secretary also alleged that she was fired from her job because she rejected the advances of her ex-boss, Nicanor C. Gabunada Jr.

The woman accused Gabunada of molesting her in his office in February.

ABS-CBN assistant vice president for corporate affairs Lawrence Tan told the INQUIRER that the lawsuit filed against Gabunada is a personal case.

"But we will stand for what is right," Tan said. "Let's allow the legal process to take its course."

The former secretary filed the charges against Gabunada before the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office.

The complainant lost her job at ABS-CBN in April for alleged insubordination, disrespect and misconduct. She had worked for ABS-CBN since 1995. Her husband works in the same network.

The complainant said in her sworn statement that Gabunada molested her on the night of Feb. 21. She said that before that, he acted like a father to her and even invited her to a night out.

She said that on the night of Feb. 21, he invited her again to go out. She said that when she asked him why, Gabunada became irritated.

"He asked me why I was evasive when he said he was doing his best to have me promoted," the woman said.

She said that after he told her in Filipino, "Don't you like me?" Gabunada grabbed her arms and almost embraced her.

She quoted him as telling her, "Do you know that once you get thinner, you'll be more beautiful?"

She said she was able to free herself and then she shouted at him, "*Bastos!* Do you know my husband and mother also work in ABS-CBN? I'll tell them about this."

She said Gabunada became angry and threatened to have her fired.

She said that if she told her husband and mother, he would " take from you all of your direct accounts. I will then throw you out of ABS-CBN. Nobody goes against me like this."

Tan, the network's assistant vice president for corporate affairs and public relations, pointed out that ABS-CBN would not give legal assistance to Gabunada.

"The network's concern is the case of illegal dismissal filed by the woman against ABS-CBN," Tan explained. ***With a report from Leah Salterio***

Body of missing driver found after floods

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

THE BODY of one of the two tricycle drivers who were swept away at the height of Thursday night's floods in Caloocan City was recovered in a creek on Friday.

Rescuers are still looking for the other victim, the Good Samaritan who was carried away by floodwaters in his failed attempt to save his fellow driver.

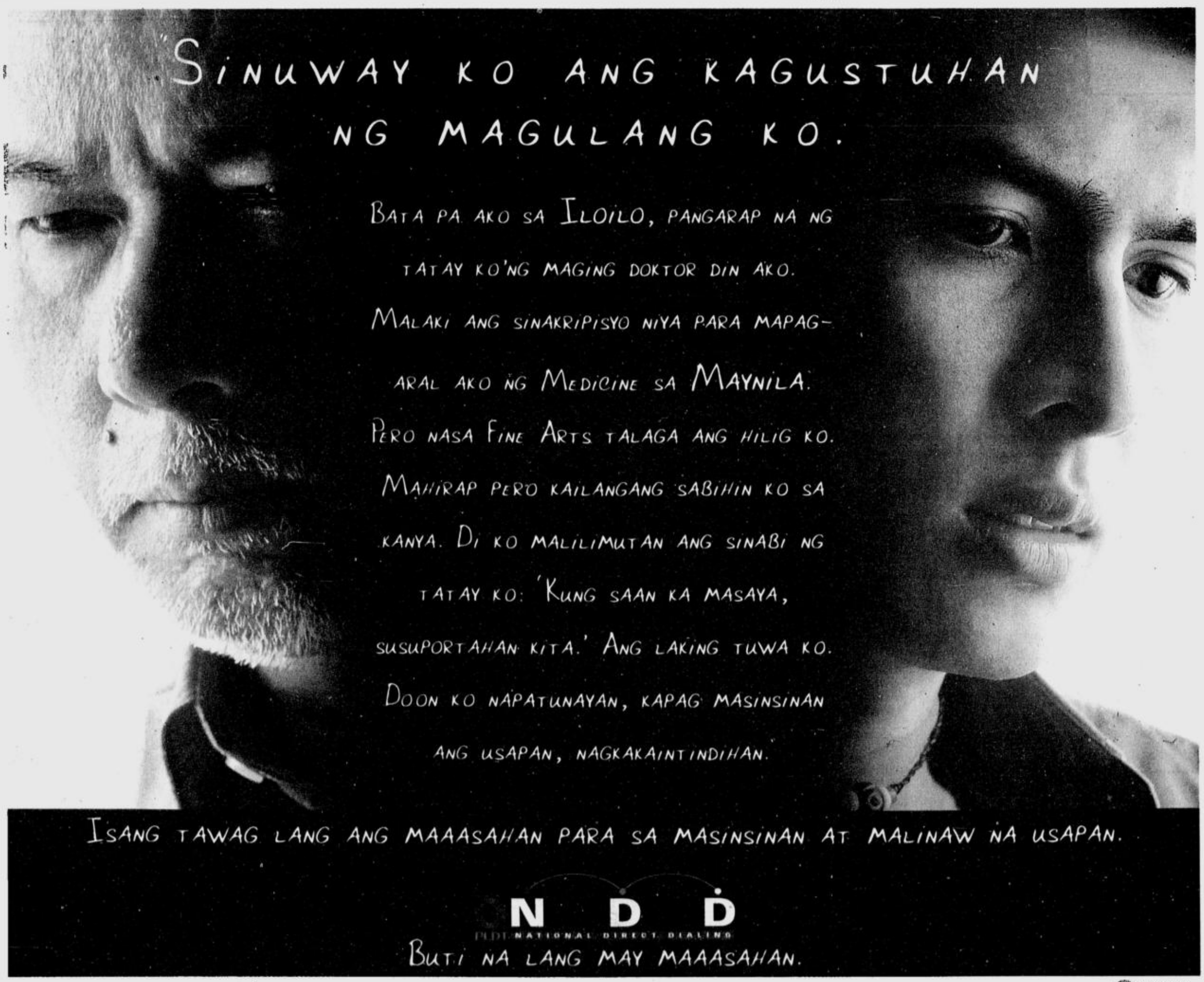
Authorities identified the found victim as Ferdinand Cayetano, 33, of 4223 Dona Ana, Subdivision in Camarin, Caloocan City.

They have not recovered the body of the other victim Rolando Arcangel, 24, of Senate Village in Barangay 173, Bagumbong, also in Caloocan.

Arcangel tried to save Cayetano but they were both carried away by the raging floodwaters Thursday night.

Cayetano's body was found around 8:30 a.m. Friday in the shallow portion of a creek in Congressional Village in Bagumbong, police said.

Cayetano was driving his tricycle over a bridge connecting Senate Village and Palmera Homes when rising floodwaters caught him in the middle of the bridge. Arcangel tried to help him but the flood continued to rise and the current proved too strong for them.



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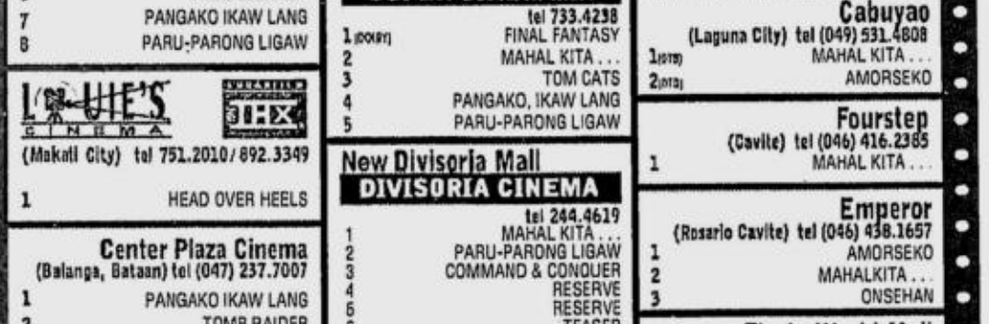

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	FINAL FANTASY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	SWORD FISH
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	TOMB RAIDER
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	TOM CATS
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	PARU-PARONG LIGAW
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	MAHAL KITA . . .
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MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	GIGIL / TEACHER'S WIFE
ODEON	MAHAL KITA . . .
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CINEMA-3	COMMAND & CONQUER
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CINEMA-5 (DTS)	TOMB RAIDER
CINEMA-6	PARO PARONG LIGAW
CINEMA-7	ATLANTIS
CINEMA-8	TEASER
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	DR. DO LITTLE 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TOM CATS
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	FINAL FANTASY
CINEMA-12	DRIVEN
CINEMA-14	MAHAL KITA . . .
CINEMA-15	PANGAKO IKAW LANG

LORES

CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED

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CINEMA-1	ATLANTIS
CINEMA-2	ALONG CAME A SPIDER
CINEMA-3	DR. DO LITTLE 2
CINEMA-4	FINAL FANTASY
CINEMA-5	TOM CATS
CINEMA-6	SWORD FISH

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(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	TOROTOT
CINEMA-2	BATANG MAGDALENA
CINEMA-4	KAKAIBANG KARISMA

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	SPOT
CINEMA-2	MOLATA
CINEMA-4	COLLEGE GIRL

CAVETT. Ready to give show biz another try

Network . . .

(From page A21)

Linggit also refutes the report that directors abandoned the program. Manahan, fondly called Mr. M, is still at the helm of the show. Some directors, like Cuares-ma, will work on certain episodes.

Linggit says ABS-CBN again started screening new talents last week because the batch is not yet complete. Even those who have signed a six-month contract for the network were made to audition again.

The production also decided to scrap parts of the pilot episode and to tape new portions.

"Management wants a really *bongga* episode for the pilot of 'Ang TV,' that's why we are doing everything to make it really good," she says. "We don't want to present anything that's half-baked, so we are not rushing things."

Of the late working hours of the children, Linggit says, "We request them to stay for another hour or two before we wind up the taping but we never impose, especially on the kids."

"Ang TV" will be a 30-minute daily afternoon program that will air Monday to Friday. The cast will be composed mostly of celebrity kids.

Among the headliners are **Luigi Muhlach** (son of **Janice de Belen** and **Aga Muhlach**), **Kahlil Kalmo** (son of **Mari** and **Enchang Kalmo**), **Alfonso Martinez** (son of **Albert** and **Liezl Martinez**), **Nicole** and **Zia Quizon** (daughters of **Zsa Zsa Padilla** and **Dolphy**), plus a host of other new talents.

Another Cavett returns

THE LAST name of **William Paul Cavett** rings a bell because he is the younger brother of MTV Asia VJ **Donita Rose**, who is of Filipino-American descent.

Paul had a brief stint in show biz when he was younger. He was a member of the Friday group of **German Moreno**'s "That's Entertainment." He also did a bit part in **Monsour del Rosario**'s action starrer, "Alyas Hunyango," in 1991.

But Paul left the business to prioritize his studies in Japan and later in San Francisco.

The good-looking six-footer is ready to give show biz another try. Last Friday, Paul arrived with his sister Donita, who had a much-needed respite in the United States.

Paul reportedly will sign a contract with Genesis Entertainment, the same talent management company that is handling Donita's career.

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Network sets record straight on stalled, 'abandoned' show

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

ABS-CBN is reviving the youth-oriented variety show "Ang TV," which started the careers of many of today's stars.

The pilot of the new "Ang TV" was supposed to have been aired last month but it encountered setbacks that delayed its premiere.

Early this year, ABS-CBN auditioned hundreds of hopefuls for the new "Ang TV." Those who were taken in went through extensive acting and performance workshops.

Early last month, the network started Saturday tapings of "Ang TV." However, after two or three tapings, the young cast was asked to stop reporting to the studio since the airing of the show would be stalled.

According to rumors, no director in the network wanted to work on "Ang TV" because they found it hard to deal with children and teenagers.

The show was reportedly offered to **Randy Santiago**, who was said to have turned it down. **Don Cuaresma** was also said to have walked out of the show allegedly because he could not stand working with director **Johnny Manahan**, who is at the helm of the ABS-CBN Talent Center.

Another buzz says that some parents of the children have been complaining because "Ang TV" would tape beyond midnight. The children would be asked to report as early as 6 a.m.

Their contracts said they would only tape up to midnight but they were made to stay up beyond the agreed working hours during the weekend tapings.

But ABS-CBN programming executive **Linggit Tan** denies the rumors.

Linggit admits the airing was moved indefinitely because the current cartoon series that "Ang TV" would eventually replace has yet to wrap up in the 3:30 p.m. slot.

NETWORK/ A20

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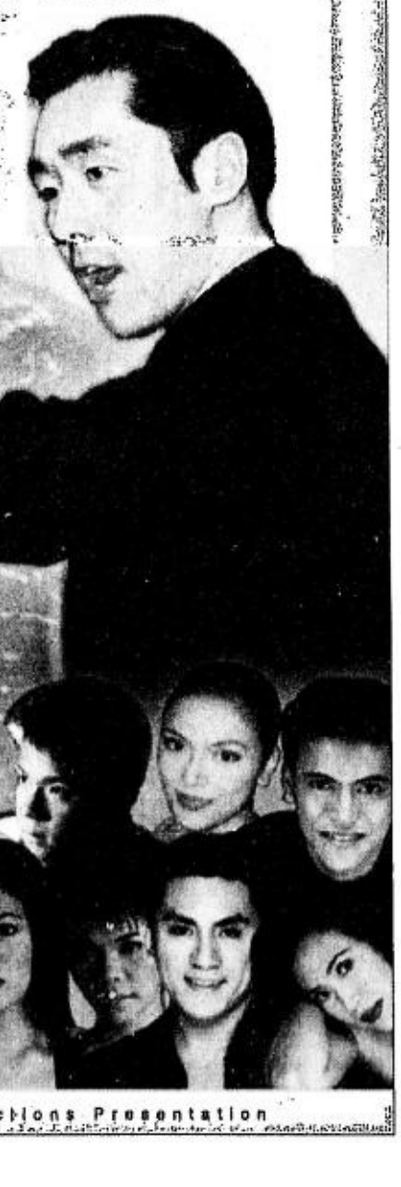

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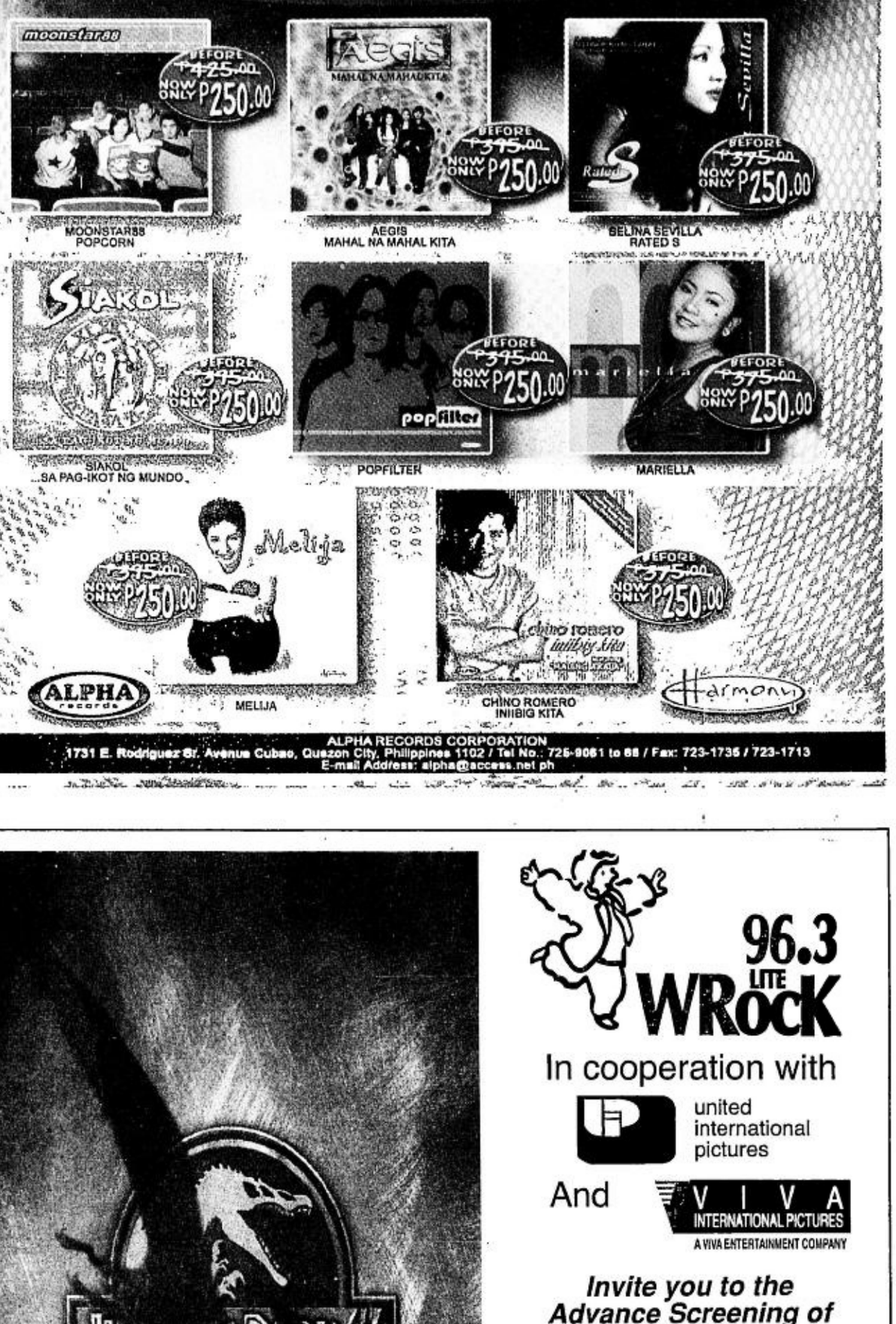

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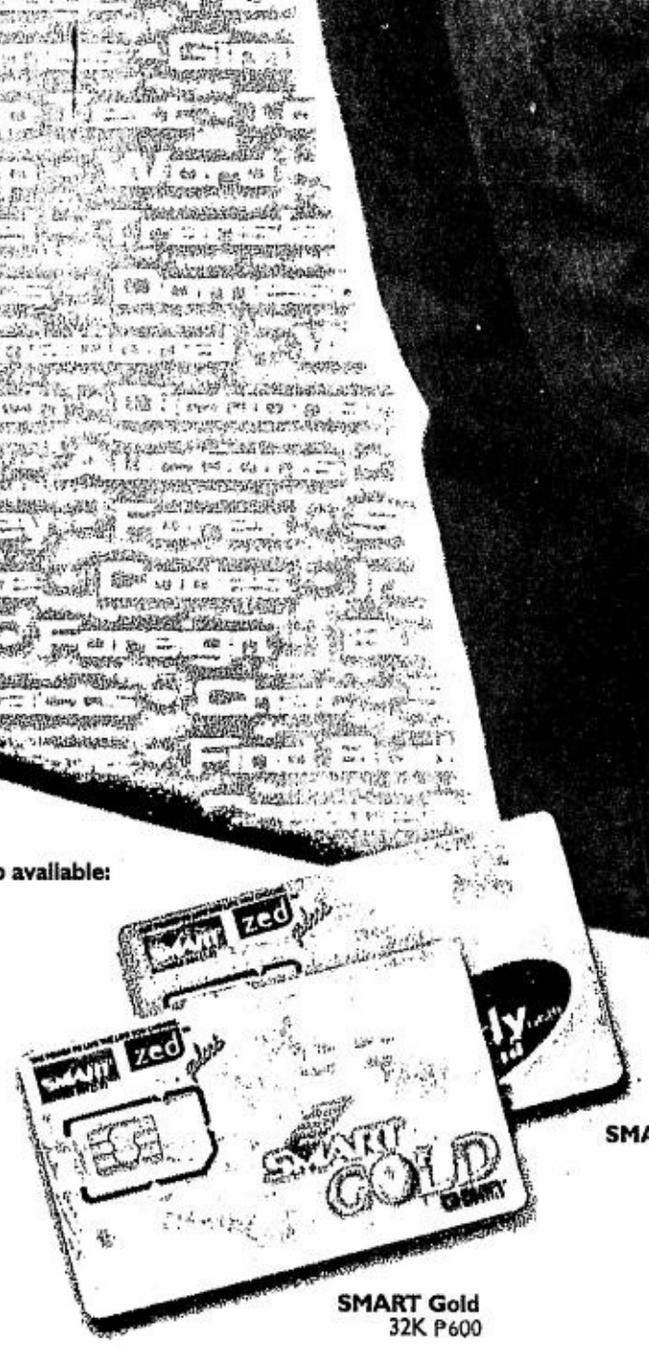

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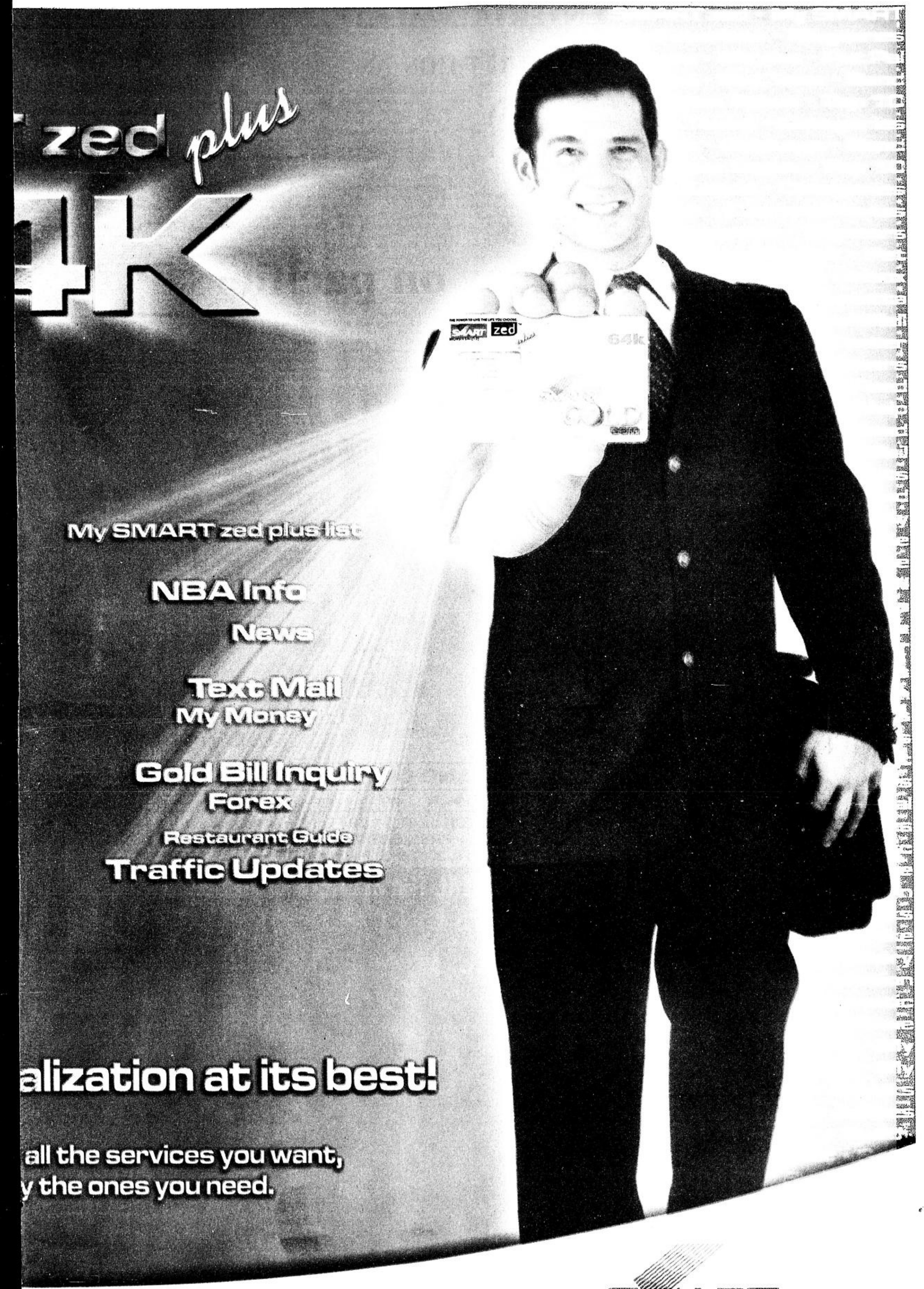
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When it rains . . .

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THIS TIME last year, former child star **Aiza Seguerra** didn't know what the future held for her. She had long outgrown her super-moppet years, and she wasn't your typical sweet or sexy show biz teenager who could be built up as a romantic lead.

Lost in show biz limbo, Aiza was advised to "prettify" her act, but she refused. Why pretend to be somebody she wasn't? Even if she did get to play it cute and saccharinely sweet in a trendy teen film, she would stick out like a sore thumb and look uncomfortable and miserable.

Like, can you imagine Aiza in a flouncy, pastel-colored gown for the prom? The angels in fashion heaven would wince!

To her everlasting credit, Aiza chose to be herself and ignored the standard career-packaging advice that everyone and his gay uncle was giving her. Instead, she asked herself what she really wanted to do at this "awkward" stage in her life, and the answer came spontaneously: write songs and sing.

So, Aiza quietly launched her singing career. It was so quiet that nobody noticed! We remember seeing her do a number in a small performing venue, and the waves she made were very small, indeed—more like little ripples in the stream.

But, as she sang and accompanied herself on her guitar, she looked comfortable and was obviously enjoying herself—that was the important thing.

In the succeeding months, Aiza stuck to her guns and honed her musical ability in other small venues. In time, she got some recording people interested, and she cut her first album as a teen talent.

At first, few people gave the album much of a chance to make it big in the pop music market. But there was something about Aiza's simple but heartfelt musical performance on the album that connected with people. It was different, a welcome relief from all of the formula bubblegum songs of other teen singers.

Above all, it was real. Here was Aiza as herself, daring to be herself in the face of the phony packaging that's rife in the recording world.

Well, the "risky" experiment paid off—in heaps. The album sold like the proverbial hotcakes, waffles and *bibingka* and, for the first time in years, Aiza became a much-sought-after musical guest on TV variety shows.

More, other musical artists started singing her new hit songs in their shows. And Aiza now has a big concert with **Ogie Alcasid** and Freestyle on Aug. 10. And we hear that one of her songs will be made into a movie.

So, there is justice in show business. By resolutely being herself, Aiza has regained the stardom that many other talents vainly aspire to by pretending to be somebody or something else. When it rains, if pours – and Aiza Seguerra is enjoying her sudden summer shower of blessings.

Feedback

FROM **Jiggs Labrador**, "I have seen via The Filipino Channel the recent 'MTB' show where they guested **Claire de la Fuente, Eva Eugenio** and **Didith Reyes**. The best was Didith. She sang her signature song, 'Bakit Ako Mahihiya,' exactly as she did it in the '70s.

"One sad thing about Filipino entertainers is that their value lessens as they grow older. Take the case of Ms Reyes: Her talent is awesome; it deserves to stay. Too bad, she didn't take care of her career.

"I believe she's the best. The strength and quality of her songs is perfect for Filipino love songs. Perhaps it's not too late to revive her singing career? Through your column, I'm calling the attention of Star Records—you could be hitting a goldmine I you return Didith Reyes to where she belongs—show business."

Marley on pacifiers

REVIEW

BY EMMIE G. VELARDE

"MELLOW" will never rhyme with "Marley." But two decades after his death from cancer at age 36, Jamaica's most eminent son is eulogized in a distinctive best-of collection by younger musical icons that wouldn't have front-acted for him during his peak.

Correct me if I'm wrong there, but to name a few of the tribute-payers: jazz guitarist Lee Ritenour, who is also album producer, vocalist Patti Austin, tenor sax great Michael Brecker, keyboardist Dave Grusin, and baritone Will Downing.

Just to rub it in, the album carries the instructions: 1) File under "Jazz" and 2) Cross-file under "Bob Marley."

The new renditions invoke time as logic for the makeovers. I am tempted to modify that last word with "drastic," but although the mood of each number is rather far removed from the original, the effect is really more of being misted over than jarring.

Old sentiments continue to haunt the unaltered lyrics, but the overriding anxiety is mere memory now, all rage remote; the pain is dull, and despair is a matter of choice.

Marley on pacifiers. Oh, no, I said it!

Unrecognizable

Note that the collection is carefully, almost wistfully, titled "A Twist of Marley." The "King of Reggae" is almost unrecognizable here as symbol of betrayal or oppression. Where his wounds were most effectively exposed raw, what remains is the essence of the music, distilled.

It's up to the listener to decide how best to value Marley with the advantage of distance-objectivity—as "multi-generational" humanitarian and crusader of rare vision, which he was; or as artist, songwriter and musician of rare caliber, which he was, too, the only difference being that the latter is a non-finite capacity.

Time Magazine picked Marley's "Exodus" as the greatest recording of the 20th century. The song is item no. 1 in the list, lent the promised twist by Brecker on sax, with vocalist Lisa Fischer. Jamaican Maxi Priest has touched up "I Shot the Sheriff" ever so lightly that it weaves images of the perpetrator still unrepentant but no longer belligerent, and resigned to a life behind bars.

Charming remake

Allow me one aside. From these two familiar titles and six others, to make two-thirds of the dozen in the lineup, it would seem that now is the time to be making OPM that will be remembered, albeit remixed and "twist"-ed, 20 years from now.

Doesn't this sound like the soundtrack of Pinoy life in the last 36 months: "Get Up, Stand Up," "No Woman No Cry," "Redemption Song," "Waiting in Vain," "So Much Trouble," "Stir It Up"?

That said, it has to be pointed out that "Redemption Song" is the most charming remake of the lot for me, sung by West African Richard Bona in his native Duala language.

"Stir It Up" is a good one, too, featuring the cool vocals of Phil Perry. South African Jonathan Butler sings "No Woman No Cry," coloring it with his own shade of blue, which is quite moving.

"Waiting In Vain" is given special mention in the producer's note as the Marley song that started the "riddims" rolling for the album.

In 1992, Ritenour recorded the track with reggae/pop singer Priest on his (Rit's) Wes Bound album. It set off a flood of memories for the intrepid jazzman known as "Captain Fingers."

"I've been a fan of Bob Marley's since I was a teenager in the late '60s," he says. "His message of freedom, courage, love, and joy carries the same weight today, as it will for all future generations. The day our space ships meet up with those friendly aliens, Marley's 'Exodus' should be blasting in the background!"

Famous melodies and lyrics

Further, Ritenour believes the songs he gathered for this project are the late idol's "most endearing, with the most famous melodies and the most famous lyrics. We needed (Marley's) most powerful strengths in order to put these spices on top. I knew we were going to put a different spin on a lot of the songs."

It is not guaranteed to sit well on dogged devotees or even the young ones reared on rabble-rousing polemics (even the kind set to music) and in search of a more universally accepted hero.

The bigger question is, if the great Marley were alive today, would he be pulling his celebrated braids or rocking (softly, at 56) in delight? Or have his undying songs in fact acquired a life of their own, become a property of humanity as all art should be and, therefore, broken free of his proprietorship?

That would be real redemption, just as sweet in any language and/or musical form.

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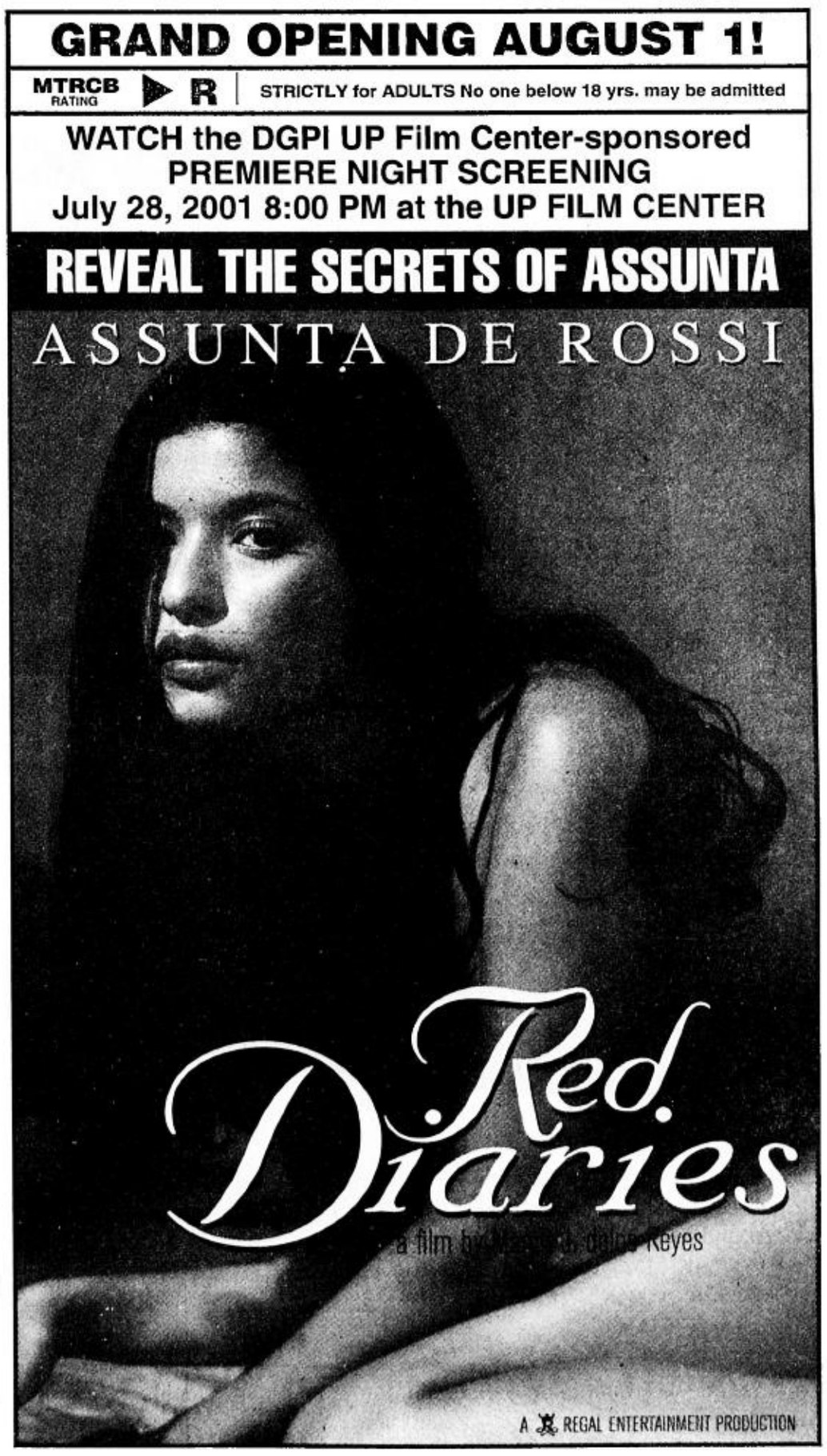

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Internet auction of Madonna memorabilia

NEW YORK—The "Material Girl" is getting rid of some of her material goods in an Internet auction hosted by Sotheby's that begins July 31, officials from the auction house announced here.

Items on auction block include a black bustier worn during her 1987 "Who's that Girl?" tour, estimated to fetch $15,000.

The 70 items to be auctioned include the original handwritten manuscript lyrics to Madonna's controversial hit "Like a Prayer," estimated to fetch between $10,000 and $12,000; workout equipment from her New York apartment ($600); and the Roland synthesizer she used to compose early hits including "Borderline" ($7,000 to 9,000).

A postcard the 42-year-old superstar wrote in 1977 to a friend expressing her hope that, "if I get the money, I really want to go to NYC, if not for fame and fortune at least for the experience," is also expected to fetch between $4,000 and $6,000.

Among the most ironic of items available to Madonna fans is a rejection letter from a record producer who passed on the singer, who has since sold more than 110 million albums.

"I do not feel that she is ready yet, but I do hear the basis for a strong artist. I will pass for now, but I will wait for more," said the letter from Millennium Records producer Jimmy Ienner.

The recently-married icon is due to arrive in New York next Wednesday, to kick off six shows at Madison Square Garden on her "Drowned World Tour," her first live outing in eight years.

Madonna kicked off the tour in Europe and plans concerts in 18 cities, with tickets in New York fetching upwards of $2,000. *AFP*

Crystal done with Oscar

LOS ANGELES—It was fun while it lasted, but it seems perennial Oscar host Billy Crystal is giving up the gig.

"I love and appreciate that the audiences want to see me out there, I really do, but I can't do it every year," Crystal, one of the Academy Awards most popular hosts, told the New York Post.

"I really like the years off, and the more I like them, the less likely I am to do it again."

The comic was responding to questions about fans organizing a "Bring Back Billy" campaign.

But Crystal told the Post the show has become a grind, taking up to three months to prepare—especially the opening bits, in which he inserts himself into film clips from the previous year.

Steve Martin hosted last year's Oscarfest after Crystal passed on the show to focus on "America's Sweethearts," his new comedy with Julia Roberts. *AFP*

Laura Dern expecting

LOS ANGELES—Actress Laura Dern is expecting her first child this fall with rocker Ben Harper, according to USA Today.

The baby's grandparents on mum's side will be Diane Ladd and Bruce Dern.

Laura, 34, and singer-songwriter Ben, 32, have been together about six months; he's divorced.

Dern, who was in the first "Jurassic Park," makes a cameo appearance in "Jurassic Park III." She also stars this fall with Steve Martin in "Novocaine" and in "Focus," a World War II drama. *AFP*

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FINAL FANTASY - P 13 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50	TOM CATS - R 18 11:40, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00	SWORD FISH - R 18 11:10, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50

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5th Sexy Date Movie DAY!

Introducing, the "Tomcats," tropa ng free-wheeling, sex-obsessed guys, na walang inatupag kung hindi maka-iskor at magbilang ng nobya.

Nagpustahan ang barkada – sino ang huling barako na di patatali sa pag-aasawa?

Matapos ang ilang taon, sina Michael (Jerry O'Connell ng JERRY MAGUIRE) at Kyle (Jake Busey ng STARSHIP TROOPERS) na lang ang natitirang bachelor sa grupo.

Upang manalo sa pusta, ise-set up ni Mike si Kyle with super-seductive Natalie (Shannon Elizabeth ng SCARY MOVIE, AMERICAN PIE). Nguni't di niya inaasahan na malinlab din pala siya sa sexing dalaga. Manalo man siya sa pusta, maglalaho naman ang true love niya!

Silipin din sa hilarious sexy comedy from Columbia Pictures sina Playboy playmates Julia Schultz at Amber Smith. **Rated R.**

Final Fantasy MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

Eye-popping sci-fi epic adventure

In the year 2065, a meteor crashes Earth, unleashing millions of destructive alien creatures. The beautiful Dr. Aki Ross is the planet's hope to overpower the alien invaders.

Infected with an alien spirit, Aki holds the key to defeating the creatures, as she scours the earth to collect the eight spirits that will save the planet, and pursues her final fantasy.

Share a motion picture unlike anything seen or imagined before on screen. Marvel at the latest in hyper-real CGI (computer generated image) technology.

Don't miss the adventure movie of the year!

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THIRD WEEK | HYPER-ELECTRIFYING ACTION THAT'S HOTTER THAN BURSTING FLAMES!

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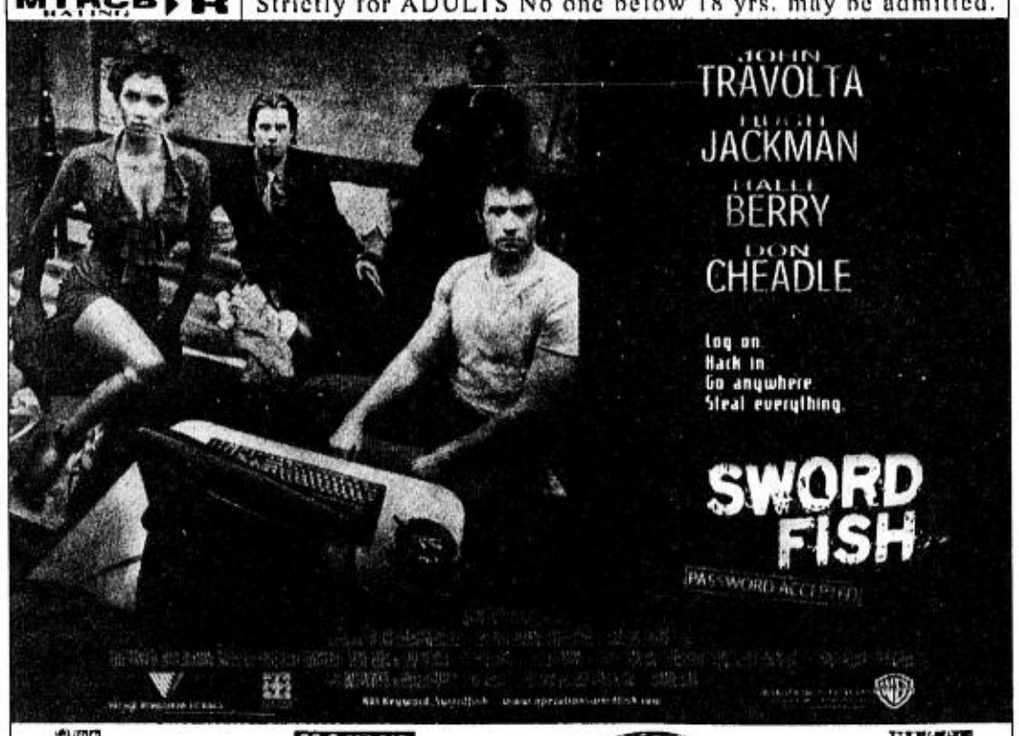

89.9 MAGIC ALL HITS ALWAYS

AYALA CINEMAS ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4 NOW SHOWING

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PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
From the Critically Acclaimed Director of "CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON"

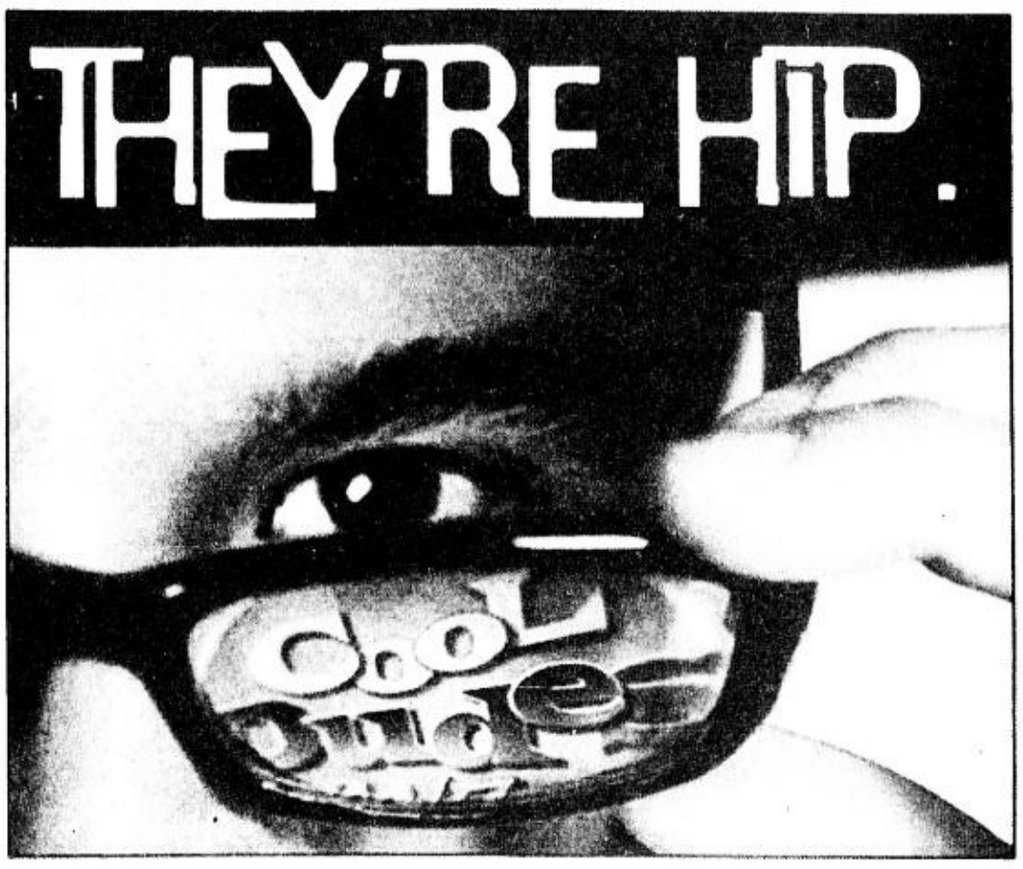
RIDE WITH THE DEVIL

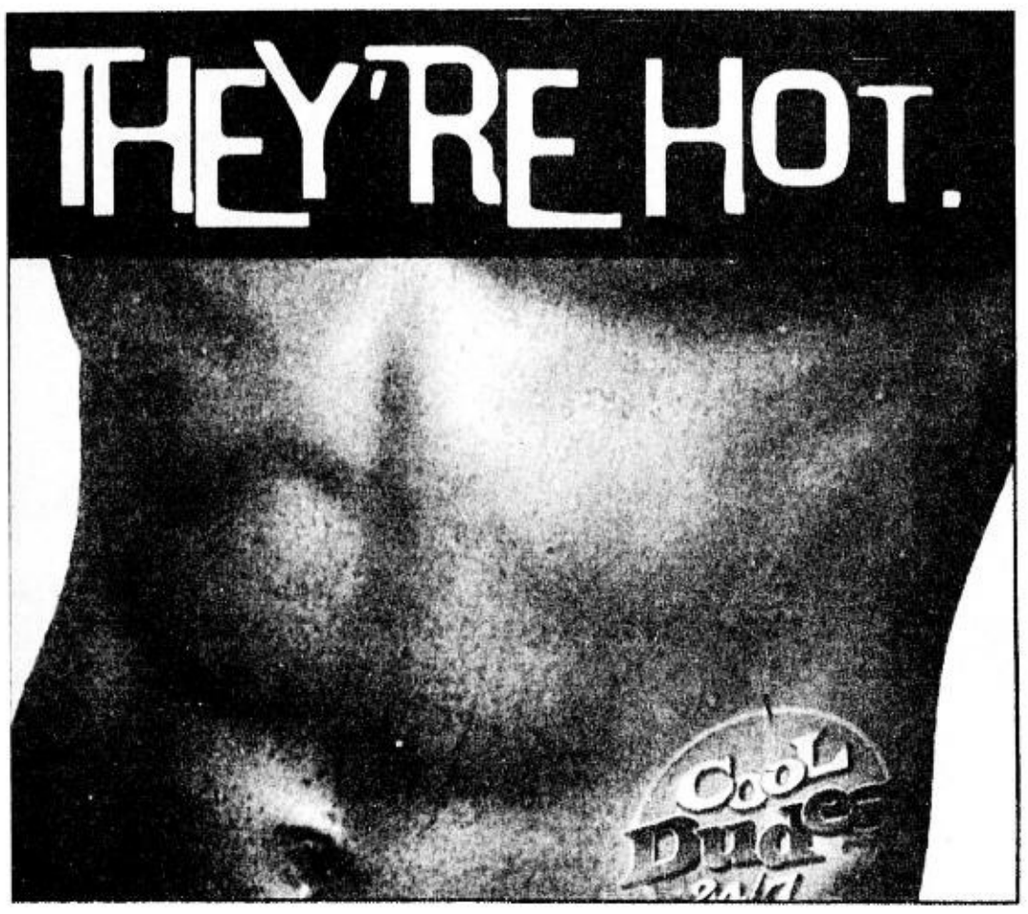
A Film by ANG LEE

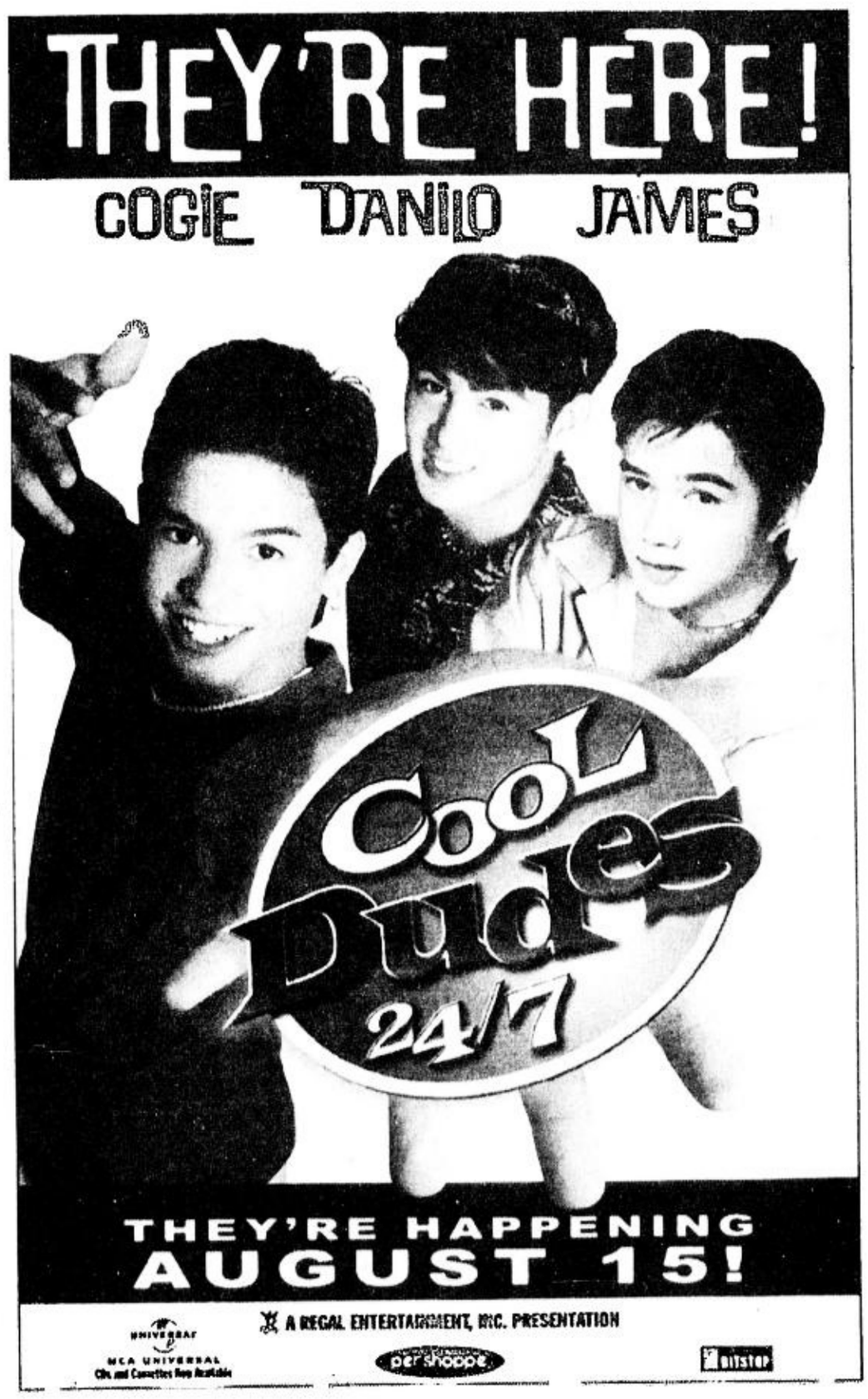
IN A NO-MAN'S LAND BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH, YOU DIDN'T FIGHT FOR THE BLUE OR THE GRAY... YOU FOUGHT FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR FAMILY.

SKEET ULRICH TOBEY MAGUIRE JEFFREY WRIGHT

Ang Lee ("The Ice Storm," "Sense and Sensibility" & Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon") once again takes audiences on a journey to a different time and place, and into his characters' internal conflicts. A cast of rising young stars portrays young Americans, striving to define themselves and the country they had always called home, amidst national turmoil. The screenplay for Ride with the Devil is adapted (by Lee's longtime collaborator, James Schamus) from Daniel Woodrell's novel Woe to Live On.







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To register in any of the games, key in ***REG<name>***

Game	To Play	Get help and other instructions
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GOTHELLO	PLAY GTLO	HELP GTLO
BINGOTXT	PLAY BT	HELP BT
HANGMAN	PLAY HM	HELP HM
DECODE	PLAY DC	HELP DC
WORDSEEK	PLAY WS	HELP WS

Send all commands to ***238.***

You can also send messages to another player in all two player SMART TXTGAMES!
To send a message, key in TO <nickname> <message>.
To reply to a message, key in REPLY <message>.
To find out your, or your opponent's rank, key in RANK <name>. Send all commands to **238.**

Each message sent to 238 will be charged ₱2.50

HANGMAN
Guess the letters in the word leading to the phrase before your opponent does.

DECODE
Unscramble letters to reveal the secret word.

WORDSEEK
Outwit your opponent by forming more words from the letters in a given word.

TIC-TAC-TOE
Place your symbols in a row of three before your opponent does.

GOTHELLO
Switch your opponent's symbols into your own by making moves in slots where your opponent's symbols are.

BINGOTXT
Place your symbols in a row of four before your opponent does.

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HEART ATTACK

Remembering a Filipino titan

GRADUATION picture of Eugenio Lopez Sr. from the Ateneo de Manila University

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

OSCAR M. Lopez, recipient of the prestigious Management Man of the Year award, attributed much of his professional success to his father Eugenio Sr. He said it was his father who drummed the values of hard work, honesty and public service to him and his siblings.

These were the same values that helped grow the Lopez group of companies into what it is today, a vast and diversified conglomerate with interests in broadcasting, telecommunications, electricity distribution, power generation and water distribution.

Last July 20, the Lopez family celebrated the centennial of Don Eugenio "Eñing" Lopez Sr., calling to mind the values that enabled the nationalist and visionary to build his vast empire.

It cannot come at a more opportune time now that the Lopez group is faced with significant challenges, particularly the debt problems hounding its subsidiaries Bayan Telecommunications Inc. and Maynilad Water Services Inc.

Auspicious beginnings

Don Eñing was born to wealthy parents Benito Lopez and Presentacion Hofileña on July 20,1901 in Jaro, Iloilo. From the time he started school in Iloilo, then to the Ateneo de Manila for high school and to the University of the Philippines where he took up law, he has always been one of the best students.

He passed the Bar in 1923 and went to Harvard University for a year of advanced studies. His destiny, however, was not to be a lawyer like his father, but to carve his own path as an entrepreneur and a newspaper publisher.

He returned to the Philippines in 1928 from Harvard, got married to Pacita Moreno of Tondo and, like other husbands and fathers, worked to provide for his family.

REMEMBERING/B3

THE LOPEZ family (from left) Presy Psinakis, Oscar, Eugenio Jr., Pacita and Manuel

THE LOPEZ group founder with President Diosdado Macapagal

LOPEZ Sr. with President Elpidio Quirino

Profit-oriented companies grow a conscience

BY RONNEL W. DOMINGO

WORK can leave you tired and sore at the end of the day even if you are just confined to your chair and desk. Reams of paper go through your in and out tray such that you don't know anymore if it is blissfully sunny or raining cats and dogs outside.

With such a life at work, many would run off to the beach or go out of town if the opportunity presents itself. Others would spend some quality time with their families.

Many companies these days are offering their employees the best of both worlds. They encourage their employees to go up the mountains, spend the day at the beach, all on company time. Plus, they get the chance to help other people.

For these people, a day at the beach would mean another day to help clean up the coastline. A day under the sun means a new house for the less fortunate and an afternoon with kids is turned into another opportunity for some youngsters to learn new computer skills.

Many companies have been encouraging their employees to perform their civic duty, mainly through corporate foundations to organize these civic efforts and outreach activities.

In 1991, these companies banded together and formed the League of Corporate Foundations.

The 49 members and associate members of the LCF—including the Philippine Daily Inquirer Inc.—recently met to share their experiences in conducting these volunteer programs.

Petron

Marilou G. Erni, Petron Foundation executive director, explains how the country's biggest oil refiner involved about 45,500 employees. They gave 346,276 hours of volunteer time, which translates to the collection of 23 metric tons of garbage from 30 kilometers of coastline in Bataan, where Petron has its refinery.

Petron volunteers also planted 4,400 seedlings, distributed P1.5 million worth of medicine and donated at least 45,000 cubic centimeters of blood.

"(Our projects) allow all volunteers to feel a real sense of involvement and fulfillment beyond their daily professional chores," Erni explains.

She says this is done through creating various opportunities "for them to make a real difference in the world at the cost of their personal time and expecting nothing in return."

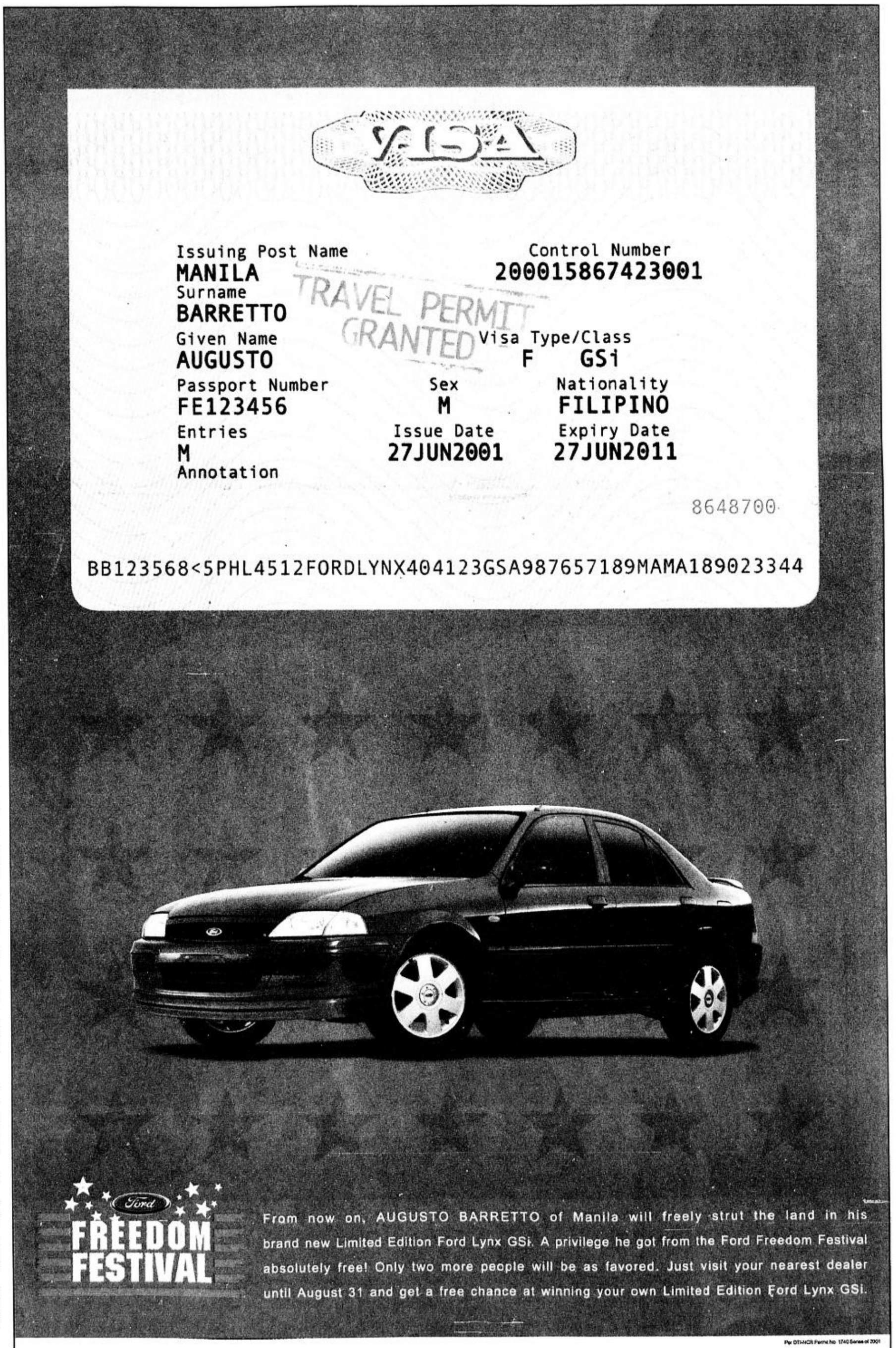
Erni adds that volunteer work helps employees gain a deeper sense of understanding of the needs of society, which will hopefully lead them to directly participate in programs to help alleviate the plight of the less fortunate Filipinos.

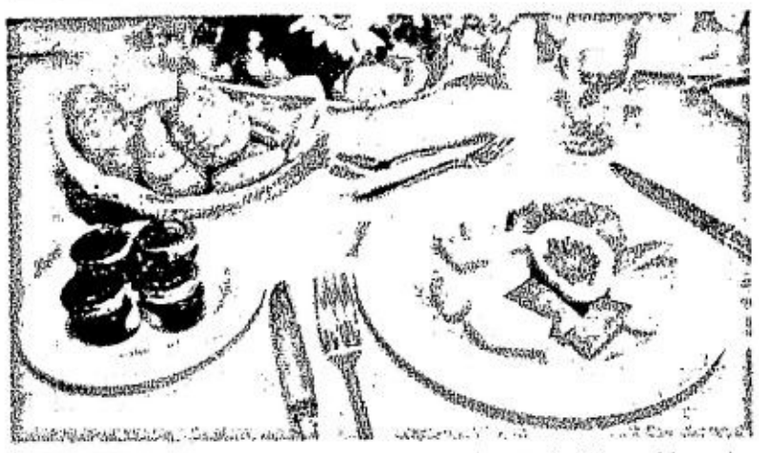
Manila Water

If Petron's volunteers help clean up garbage, Manila Water Co. president Antonio T. Aquino says the water firm's volunteers have become regulars in rescue and relief operations because of the Sagip-Buhay program.

They responded to emergencies such as the Cherry

PROFIT-ORIENTED/B3





BREAKFAST at the Manila Pen means a hearty helping of bread, fruits, juices and jam.

PHOTOS BY JOHNNY VILLENA

THE AMERICAN breakfast offers guests a bread basket, selection of chilled fruit and vegetable juices and two eggs done in any style.

THE LIGHT and healthy selection at Makati Shangri-la includes poached eggs with grilled asparagus on toast.

Are meals heavier than the deals?

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

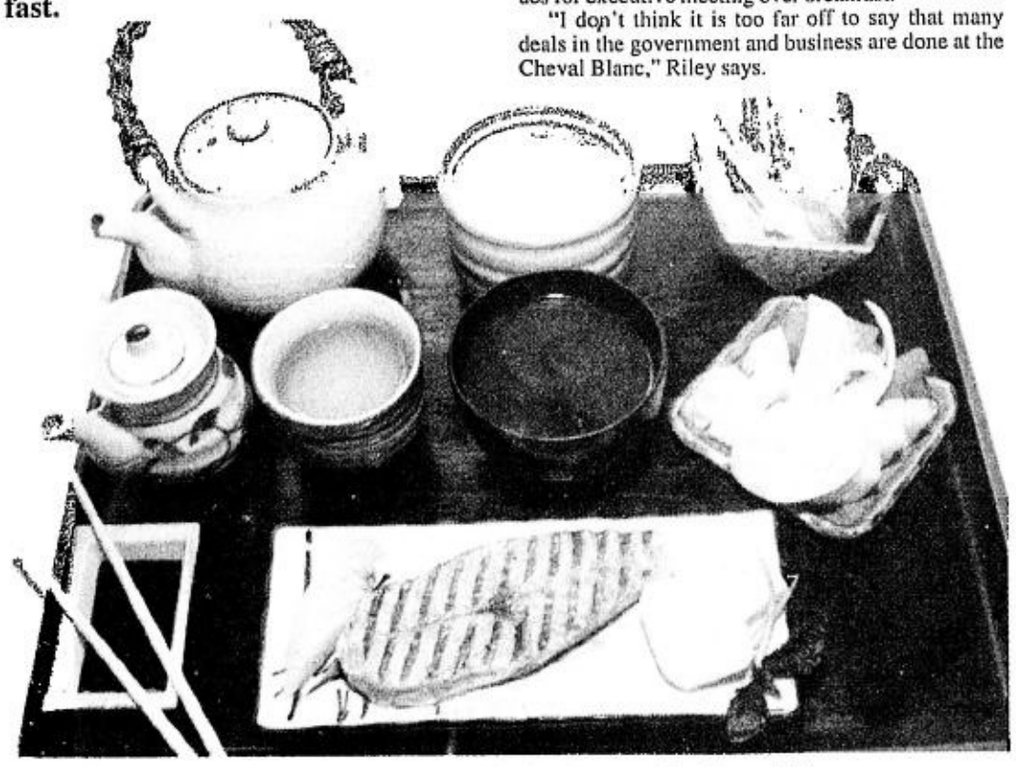
OUR mothers always told us that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and the country's top decision-makers are taking this advice to heart. If there is a so-called power lunch, then there is also a power breakfast.

"Power breakfasts are a reality," says Richard Riley, general manager of the Makati Shangri-La Hotel, which serves breakfast buffets at the lobby, at the Horizon Club lounge and at the Cheval Blanc fine dining restaurant.

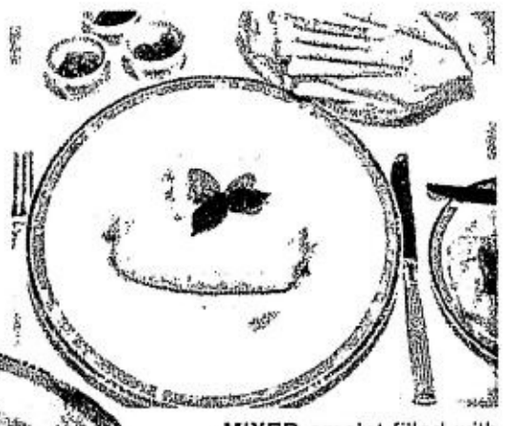
"With time being what time is, business people are meeting earlier in the day. Many prefer breakfasts because the food is light and quick, and they can meet privately," Riley explains.

The Cheval Blanc is one of the more popular venues for executive meeting over breakfast.

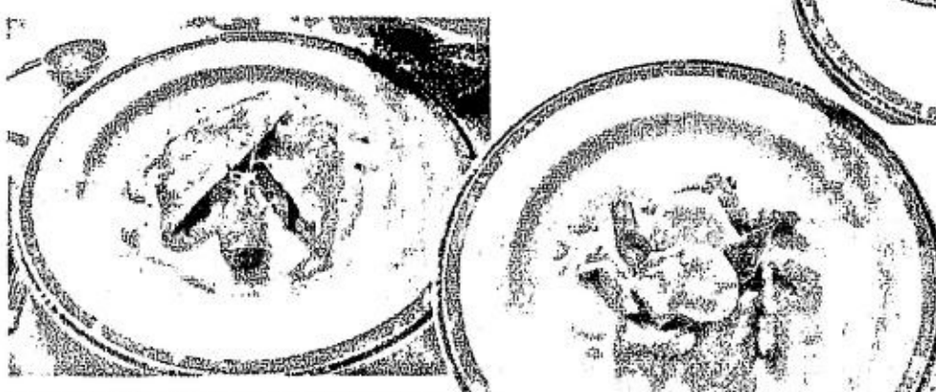
"I don't think it is too far off to say that many deals in the government and business are done at the Cheval Blanc," Riley says.



TRADITIONAL Japanese breakfast with grilled salmon at the Cheval Blanc



MIXED omelet filled with cooked ham, tomato, mushrooms and onions



MUSHROOMS and spinach crepe filled with shiitake, spinach and egg

There is also the food.

Businessmen usually go for the selections in the buffet for a quick meal such as the different breads, fresh jam or compote, cereals and the selection of chilled fruit and vegetable juices.

For those with more time on their hands, they go for a la carte selections that are heavier in the stomach such as eggs and rice, especially for Filipino executives. There is the Japanese breakfast for Japanese guests and the American and continental breakfast for expatriates.

At the nearby Manila Peninsula, executives have their breakfast at the lobby or at the Nielsen's. Over coffee and flaky croissants with their choice of jam and butter they close important deals to start the day right.

Mariano Garchitorena of Manila Pen's public relations office says many executives are choosing to have their meetings over breakfast because they can have their meal fast and immediately get down to business.

"They can also enjoy fruits or vegetable juices and come out feeling full but not bloated. They are then ready to go to their next meeting," Garchitorena explains.

POACHED egg California with baby artichokes and tomato concasse

PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON

CHEVAL Blanc's breakfast buffet

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Profit-oriented companies . . .

(From page B1)

Hills disaster of 1999 and the Payatas tragedy last year.

The volunteers also helped fire victims in Barangka Drive in Mandaluyong, Barangay Pinyahan in Quezon City, Pook Ricarte in UP Diliman Campus and the Lung Center of the Philippines.

Aside from the sense of fulfillment gained from serving the community, Antonio says these outreach activities foster greater teamwork and cooperation among the employees.

"The program has gained for (our company) good community relations not only in our business areas, but also in other parts of the metropolis," Antonio adds.

Nestlé

Juan B. Santos, chair and chief executive officer of Nestlé Philippines, also shared the findings of a study on trends concerning corporate volunteerism conducted by the Philippine Business for Social Progress and the American Chamber Foundation.

Santos, who also co-chairs the PBSP's Center for Corporate Citizenship, says volunteerism thrives among local companies regardless of size, nationality or industrial activity.

"Although sporadic and seasonal, employees are quick to respond to voluntary work, giving their time, skills and resources—whether in cash or in kind," Antonio says.

Others, however, raised the problem of sustaining volunteer programs.

Samuel P. Muller, program officer of the UN volunteers under the United Nations Development Program, highlights the need to ensure the sustainability of volunteer programs.

"To me, the objective of volunteers is to work towards the day when they are no longer needed to volunteer in a particular area because they have done their jobs," Muller says.

He cited the Petron example, "which demonstrated and successfully advocated" to the coastal communities why they should be taking care of their own environment.

Jose Bayani Baylon, external affairs director of Coca-Cola Export Corp., adds that the sense of "bayanihan" in volunteer work is the source of hope in these times of cynicism.

"In an age when we are looking for new heroes, bayanihan actually says you can be the hero of the future, a Bayaning Third Wave if you will," Baylon says.

ABS-CBN Foundation managing director Gina Lopez points out the power of volunteerism "to break the paradigm of rich and poor, which certain quarters have been injuriously and dangerously propagating."

Lopez says the volunteer programs show there is a lot of compassion in our society, which shows that we are really members of one country.

She called on the companies to embrace volunteerism not just as a side activity but something they have to do as part of their business.

"I call on you to integrate it in the very being and structure of the corporation as a significant strategy to run your business; to prevent burnout; to improve the culture of your company," she says.

France seeks to draw tourists away from Paris

PARIS—The world's most visited country is struggling to manage the influx of tourists who, by flocking to Paris and the Cote d'Azur and avoiding rural areas, threaten the development of tourism in France.

"We have 80 percent of tourists on 20 percent of our land," said spokesman of the assistant secretary of state for tourism, Fabien Roussel.

"It has to be shared out better," Roussel said.

France is host to 73 million visitors a year. Last summer alone, 10 million of them flocked to Paris and the Riviera, known in French as the Cote d'Azur.

The Parisian district of Montmartre, one of the city's tourist hot spots, overflows in the summer months. Ecologists are worried about climbing pollution levels caused by the influx of coaches that ferry the tourists along the area's narrow streets.

The cobble-stoned streets of the central Paris island, Ile de la Cite, are also teeming with tourists heading to and from its Notre Dame cathedral.

A mixture of sun and sea attracts hoards of holidaymakers to the Cote d'Azur, while many rural regions such as Creuse in central France are all but empty.

Tourism is growing in France. This year foreign visitors are expected to generate 215 billion francs ($27 billion, 32 billion euros) and make up seven percent of the country's gross domestic product.

As the industry grows, concerns over its unequal geographical spread are mounting.

We should "rebalance tourism in favor of rural regions and the hills," said Assistant Secretary of State for Tourism Michelle Demessine.

The Inter-ministerial Committee for the Development of Territories met to discuss the issue on July 9 in the southern city of Limoges. They announced a 440 million franc boost to developing tourism in France.

France's varied climate and landscape, along with its potent mix of history, culture and cuisine have helped to make it the world's top holiday destination.

Its capital Paris, known as the City of Light, ski resorts in the French Alps such as Courchevel and Tignes and ritzy beach resorts like Nice and Cannes that line the Cote d'Azur are the most popular destinations for international holidaymakers and the French themselves.

Tourists from home and abroad ensure the survival of about 200,000 small businesses such as hotels, restaurants and travel agencies throughout France. The central department of Creuse is an agricultural region where cereals, potatoes and chestnuts are grown.

The reluctance of tourists to explore Creuse comes as little surprise to its residents—many of them have left the region for other parts of France in recent years. *AFP*

Remembering a Filipino titan

(From page B1)

Don Eñing started off by running the haciendas that he and his brother Fernando inherited from their parents. But he quickly diversified. He put up the first Asian Airline, Iloilo Negros Air Express Co., in 1933. When World War II destroyed Inaec's planes, he persevered and put up Far East Transportation Inc., the first Asian airline to ply international routes.

He also revived the newspapers El Tiempo and the Iloilo Times. In 1932, he established the Iloilo Transportation Co., which introduced double-decker buses in Iloilo, long before they were used in Hong Kong. This was followed by a taxi service, a shipping company, air-conditioned theaters, a cement company and then, in 1945, he acquired the Manila Chronicle and established Chronicle Broadcasting Network.

In 1956, he wrested leadership in the broadcast media by acquiring Alto Broadcasting System and merging it with CBN at inaugural ceremonies graced by President Ramon Magsaysay. ABS-CBN still reigns today as the country's biggest broadcasting network.

It was, however, when he and a group of Filipino entrepreneurs acquired the Manila Electric Co. from American firm General Public of the Utilities that he truly showed his pioneering vision and business acumen.

Many thought that a public utility run by Filipino engineers is bound to fail, but Meralco surged. It increased its generating capacity from 1962 to 1972 and offered, at the time, the cheapest power in Asia.

Trying times

Don Eñing, however, almost lost the companies he worked hard at expanding under the Marcos regime. He caught the ire of the former President when he exposed Marcos and Imelda's lust for money and power through editorial cartoons in the Manila Chronicle.

Under the Marcos leadership, his son Geny was held captive for ransom, Meralco was forcibly acquired for only P10,000 and ABS-CBN was silenced.

It is said that no other Filipino family lost as much as the Lopezes did with the declaration of martial law.

Don Eñing himself was supposed to be imprisoned with the declaration of martial law if not for his timely flight to the US. He flew to the US to accept a special award from Harvard University, which broke tradition by conferring on him its distinguished service award.

He was the first non-American and non-alumnus of the Harvard School of Business to be so honored.

With the Marcoses firmly in control of the Philippines, he had to live in exile in San Francisco where he passed away on July 6, 1975 after a lingering bout with cancer. Although his son escaped and found freedom abroad, he did not live long enough to see democracy restored and his businesses returned to his family after the 1986 Edsa revolution.

Lasting legacy

It may have been some time since Don Eñing passed away, but his spirit still lingers as he was as concerned with uplifting the plight of the Filipinos as he was in making his business grow.

Among his legacies are the building that houses the Asian Institute of Management, the scholarship at Harvard University for deserving Filipinos, the Eugenio Lopez Foundation Scholar Awards for UP faculty members, his donation to the Press Foundation and to the UP Law Center.

His children have also continued to build on the foundation laid down by their father. The Lopez empire today is bigger than it was during their father's time.

Benpres Holdings Corp. today serves as a holding company for investments in power generation, broadcasting and cable and telecommunications. It later diversified to include property development and water distribution.

Always serving as a guiding light is Don Eñing's value of providing service to the Filipino.

Tilapia . . . (From page B8)

Total expenses would reach P117,206.

The fish growers should consider the costs based on current prices of materials, goods and services.

Returns

As for the returns, the total fingerling production was 1.687 million based on a 75-percent spawning success of the total breeding packages (at 250 fingerlings per package a month).

At 20 centavos per fingerling, the sale would reach P337,500. Minus the total expenses for costs of fingerling production (P117,206), the net farm income here is P220,294. Subtract the caretaker's share of 10 percent of the gross income (P33,750) and the net profit is P186,544.

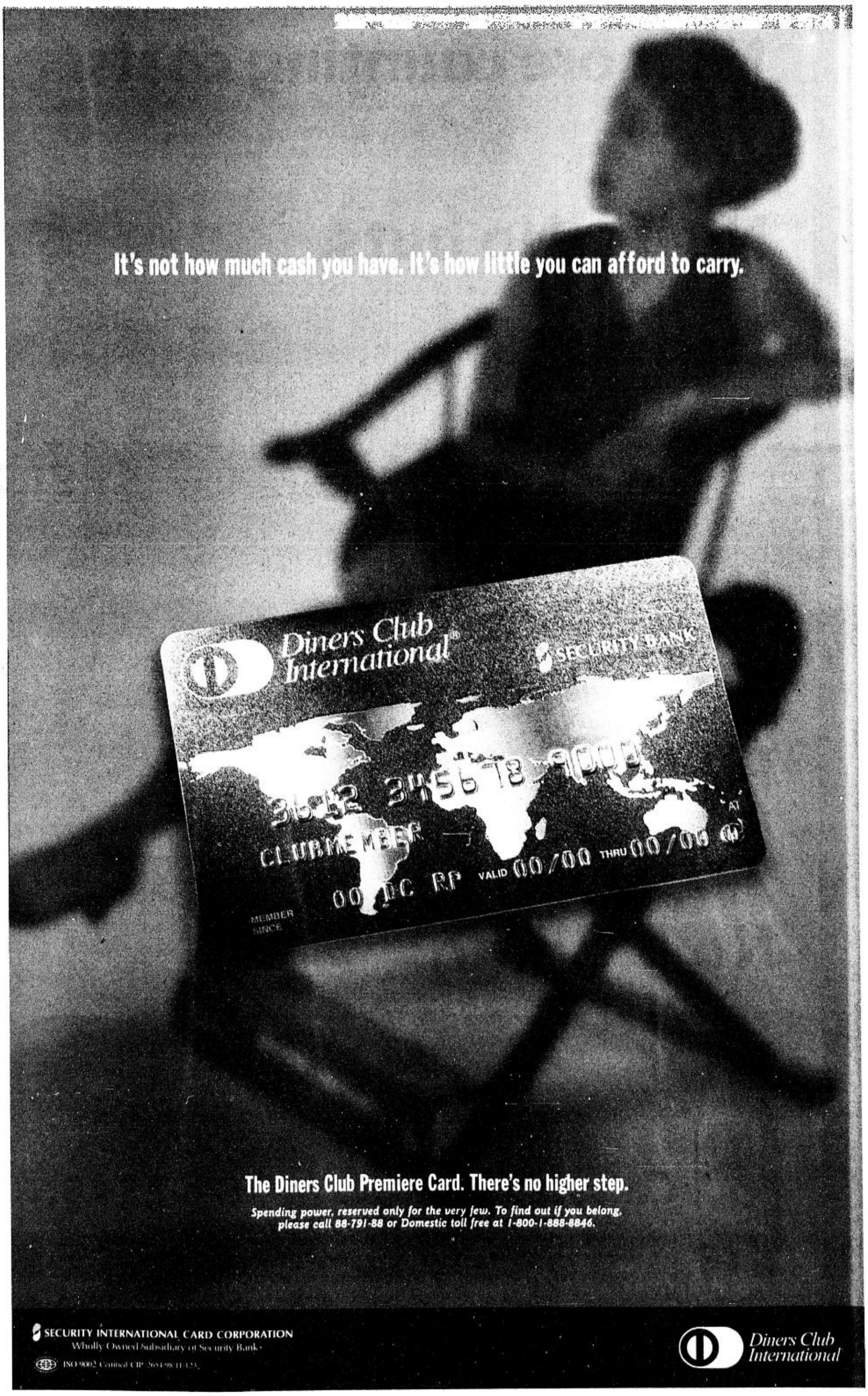
If the capital investment of P152,750 is subtracted from the net profit for the sale of fingerlings, the pond owner would still get P33,794 in earnings.

If the owner himself tends the pond, the caretaker's share would add up to his earnings for the first year of operation.

Sevilleja said it is possible to have 12 fingerlings production a year. This would, therefore, mean more fingerlings to be harvested and sold.

Based on the estimates of fisheries experts here, the demand for *tilapia* fingerlings in the country every year could reach one billion. But fingerling producers could only produce about half of that estimate.

Research stations or institutes, government fish farms and nurseries, small hatcheries, fish farmers and the growing number of entrepreneurs are now involved in the production of *tilapia* fingerlings.



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IN YOUR FACE — BY L. P. LEVISTE

SEN. Loren Legarda has always been an achiever. She was an honor student, a leading broadcast personality and now, one of the country's most popular senators. She made her mark during the impeachment trial as one of the sharpest among her peers. Is running for a higher office part of her plan?

The K.I.S.S. principle wields magic on management, leadership issues

"The Power of Simplicity"
By Jack Trout with Steve Rivkin
McGraw-Hill, 1999

BY DANTE M. VELASCO

THE K.I.S.S. Principle, as most of us probably know by now, is a curt reminder to "keep it simple, stupid." No offense meant, but it is also a frank advice—for public speakers—to "keep it short"—the speech, that is.

"Simplicity is beauty"—as we learned in grade school—has been elevated to "simplicity is power."

To rhetoricians, there is power in the simplest words carrying distilled wisdom. To chess grandmasters, there is force in simplifying the strategy that penetrates the opponents' ranks.

To generals, there is invincibility in simply marshaled troops. To scientists like Albert Einstein, there is compelling truth in a theory reduced to a simple formula. To preachers, there is might in the simplest truths of Jesus' parables.

And, allow us to add, to author Jack Trout and co-author Steve Rivkin, there is power in cutting through the nonsense of complexity in business—because that means doing things right.

Extolling the virtues of simplicity, they practice what they preach in a simply designed book titled "The Power of Simplicity."

Tackling 23 issues covering the basics of simplicity, management strategies, leadership principles and people matters—the book proves that it can be a *tour de force*, minus the forced effort of reading through a voluminous piece. Why? Because in only 191 pages, the authors lead the reader to every conceivable issue an executive must grapple with to succeed in business.

EXECUTIVE READ

The book begins with wit and wisdom associated with "common sense"—which has become uncommon—and with "complex language."

Taking off from Leonardo da Vinci's views of common sense, the authors call it "supersense that rides herd over our other senses."

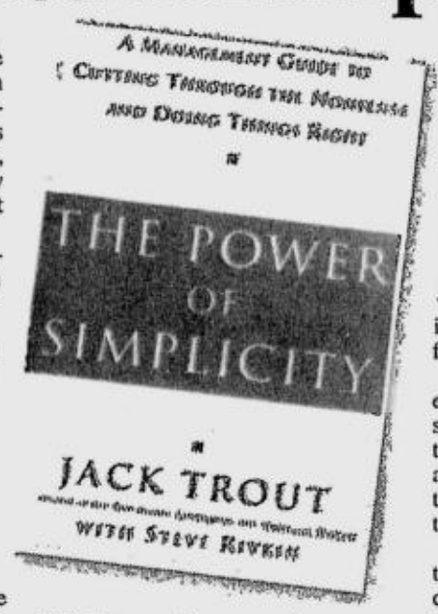
For example, they say common sense dictates that Xerox should not venture into high technology businesses other than copiers—because it has made a name in the copying business. For not listening to this uncommon quality, Xerox lost a lot of time and money.

The section on language that "clouds people's minds" is a joy to read, especially with translations of famous sayings.

Consider this: "It is not efficacious to indoctrinate a superannuated canine with innovative maneuvers." (You can't teach an old dog new tricks.) What about this: "Visible vapors that issue from carbonaceous materials are a harbinger of imminent conflagration." (Where there's smoke, there's fire.)

Touche, Mr. Tout—you have made your point. We hate to say it, but many of our reports and memos really use such convoluted language.

The authors continue to target some business icons and crush their theories and diagrams simply because they are



full of intersecting arrows, boxes and circles. They take to task Michael Porter, Harvard's strategy guru, and his complex discussion of the five competitive forces—and offer their own recommendation couched in a single word: positioning.

They question Nike's "Just do it" slogan and volunteer the line "what the best athletes in the world wear." It makes rational sense but does it have "gut appeal?" The authors recommend: "Kill the frogs" in Budweiser's ad; instead stress the heritage behind the Budweiser brand.

The authors tell the gurus, "Give us a break." We reply, "O come on!" We may have a case of simplicity going too far.

But, as you move on, you will continue to agree with the authors' insightful analysis. On companies' customer orientation, Trout and Rivkin say that too much lip service is paid to such policies as "customer is always right" and "customer is king."

They reveal that, in a survey by Inc. Magazine among CEOs of 500 fastest-rising companies about their concerns, the responses showed that CEOs are more concerned with competitive strategies (18 percent), managing people (17 percent), keeping up with technology (13 percent), managing growth (13 percent) and managing finances (12 percent).

Asserting that "customers did not even make the list," they volunteer this simple customer policy: "You should treat customers so they (1) buy more, and (2) complain less," adding "Make them feel smart about being your customers."

You will find yourself agreeing with the authors on some points, and then disagreeing with them especially when they demolish the theories of your favorite management experts.

To be fair, the authors reserve their highest praise for author Peter Drucker and CEOs like Jack Welch and Andy Grove. The rest are not so lucky.

Actually, simplicity makes for user-friendliness. The authors cite the success story of the Palm Pilot organizer, which was designed for just a few simple functions, making it a companion to PCs—not a replacement.

They quote 3Com's palm division: "Our mantra is simplicity."

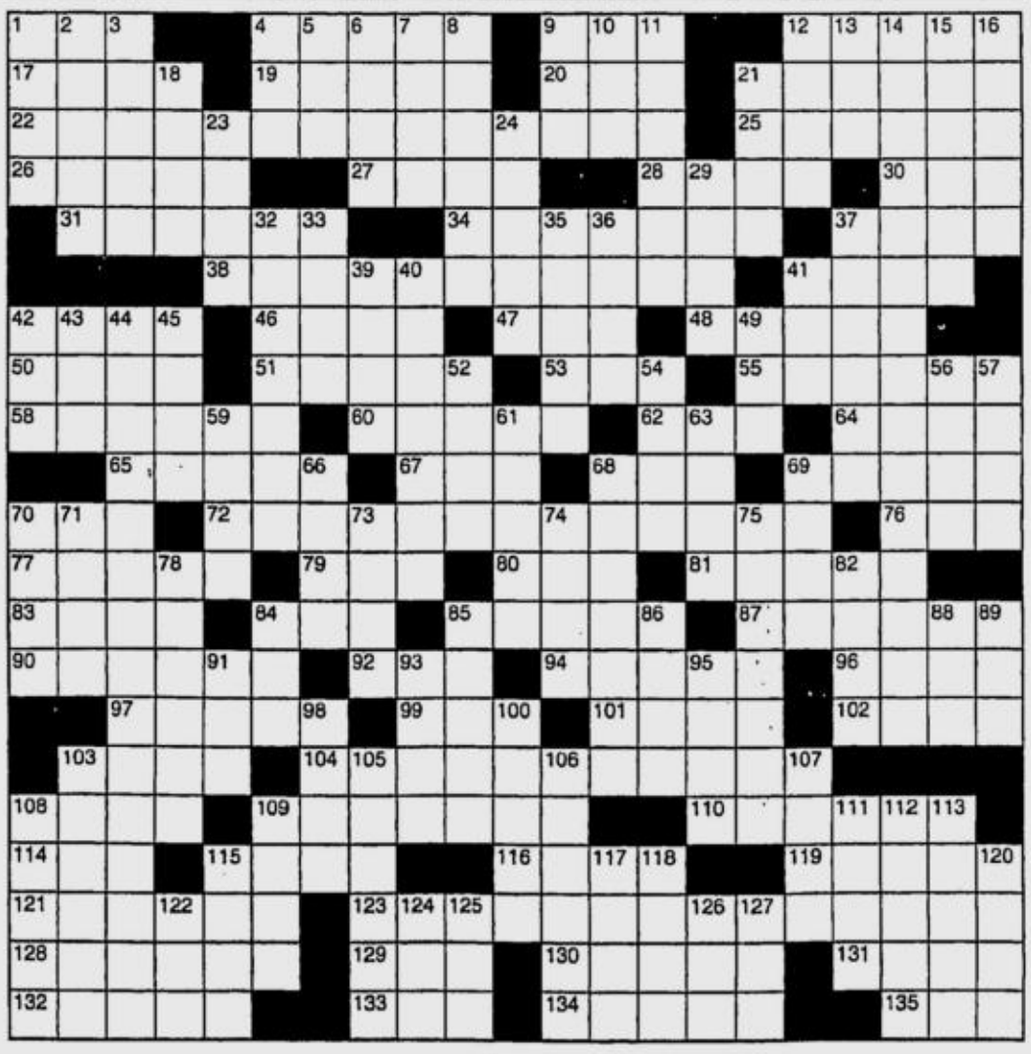
Business can be complex at times, and the mantra of simplicity may not work all the time. But there may also be times when you can't steer clear of the maze confronting you. And you need a distilled insight with razor-sharp focus to cut through a web of options. Then you know first hand the power of K.I.S.S. *(dantemv@I-next.net)*

(FROM LEFT) Roshele Moreno, Melody Mejia and Stuart Young of Nach-O-Fast and Frido Ong of Burberry

ARCHIE and Eric Gutierrez of CPK

(FROM LEFT) CJ Jesena, Johnny Pardo and Maritess Panlilio of Simply Gold and Ophie Dee of Gallery 828.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD



SHARPEN YOUR WITS

ACROSS
1 Mineral suffix
4 Awaited
9 Two, in Tijuana
12 Out of line
17 Worthless
19 Pad
20 Journalist Tarbell
21 Hapsburg capital
22 Like a spy story
25 Actress Jennifer
26 Former Pentagon head
27 Big name in locks
28 Dweeb's cousin?
30 Competitor
31 Germ type
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37 Pumper's pride
38 Harrison Ford movie
41 With 68 down, "CHiPs" star
42 Tenor Thomas
46 Writer Hunter
47 Turf
48 Field marshal Rommel
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51 Gets slushy
53 Seoul soldier
55 Non-threatening
58 Ms. Goldberg
60 Act like Etna
62 Fine stuff?
64 Actor Everett
65 Bring up
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69 "Superman" star
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76 Pale
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80 Rum sum
81 Mead's milieu
83 Eatery
84 Snyder or Hanks
85 Houston ballplayer
87 Detest
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92 Fox's foot
94 Desert schlepper
96 Circus barker?
97 Fight site
99 Crank's comment
101 Take risks
102 Auto adornment
103 Very, very satisfied
104 Michael Ansara series
108 Egg plant?
109 Fondue ingredient
110 Rifleman
114 Business abbr.
115 James of "Misery"
116 Pearl Harbor's locale
119 Hold back
121 Flautist James
123 The Searchers hit
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130 Carry on
131 Joy Adamson's joy
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135 Chariot bumper?

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1 Peruvian of old
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4 Quote from 41 down
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6 Comic Goodman
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10 Laudatory lyrics
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15 Put behind bars
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74 Coll. cadets
75 Armada member
78 Shred
82 Kind of kiln
84 Prepare to be in "Baywatch"
85 Vigilant
86 Astronomer Khayyam
88 "Bali —"
89 New Haven hardwood
91 Brew barrel
93 "— Named Sue" ('69 hit)
95 Slips up
98 "— -Ca-Dabra" ('74 song)
100 Biblical tyrant
103 Musical composition
105 Stream
106 Kevin of "SNL"
107 Unrestrained
108 Churchill trademark
109 Motown's Marvin
111 Organ part
112 Boxer Griffith
113 Hair coloring
115 — Grande, AZ
117 Present
118 Weekend warriors (Abbr.)
120 Autocrat
122 Angkor — (Cambodian temple)
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ANSWER ON PAGE A20

Tenants fete new 'landlady'

MANY of the country's top entrepreneurs gathered recently at the Shangri-La Plaza to honor their new "landlady" Lala Fojas, the mall's new executive vice president and general manager.

Fojas boasts of a distinguished career in management, operations and marketing having held two top positions as vice president for international marketing and as AVP for corporate strategic marketing for a top beer company.

Prior to her present post, she held concurrent positions as a member of the core faculty of the Master in Business Management and as executive managing director for marketing and customer relations at the Asian Institute of Management.

SLPC president Fernando Gaspar says, "I am confident that with Lala's credentials, Shangri-La Plaza Mall will succeed in providing our partner retailers a creative and profitable venue for business as well as provide our malls loyal patrons world-class standards in shopping."

Partners from the retail, government and diplomatic communities as well as friends from the arts warmly welcomed Fojas.

Fojas said she would try to meet the ever-changing demands of its customers and to continue to build it not only as a shopping and leisure destination but also an "extraordinary venue to feast on the senses, mind and soul."

Some of the retail partners present during the affair were Presy Ramos of Crossings Department Store and Monty Roxas of Rustan's; jewelers Mark Velayo of K. Velayo, Johnny Pardo and Maritess Panlilio of Simply Gold, Lincoln Yao of Washington Watches; restaurant owners Sheila Ramos of Tokyo Tokyo, Stuart Young of Nach-O-Fast, California Pizza Kitchen's Archie Rodriguez and Eric Gutierrez, Goncalo de Almeida of Le Coeur de France.

Nenita Lopez and Ernie Uykim of Mercury Drug; Johnny and Aida Cobankiat of Coby's; Bobby Claudio of Toby's; Joey Estrera of True Value; and The Body Shop's Vic Muñoz were also present.

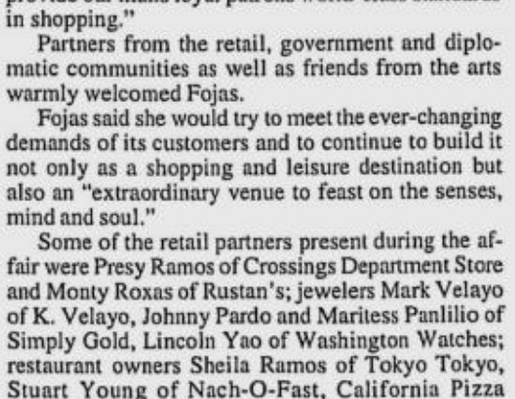
Spotted too were fashion boutique owners, among them, Celia Elumba of Igedo Fashions, Josie Yao of Mary Mike and Jhoana Duarte of Big & Small.

Fojas is the first female to graduate with honors at the Asian Institute of Management having completed her Master in Business Management with Distinction in 1978. She likewise participated in the one-year advanced top management course in economics and business development conducted by the University of Asia and the Pacific in 1993.

NEW SHANGRI-LA Plaza general manager Lala Fojas

MALL president Fernando Gaspar (left) and VP for operations Jolyon Tiglao (right) enjoy a moment with Body Shop's Vic Munoz Sr.

SHANGRI-LA Mall's Hutch Regencia with Nenita Lopez and Ernie Uykim of Mercury Drug



RETAIL partners Jhoana Duarte of Big & Small, Gigi Gloria of Sacred Heart School and Celia Elumba of Igedo Fashions

JOY Estrera of True Value, consultant Vince Formosa, Johnny Cobanklat of Coby's Design Center

Etch a profitable business with cut glassware

BY AMELITA R. REMO

PATIENCE, a little creativity and a small capital of P15,000 are all that an entrepreneur needs to start a profitable business from glass etching. Another good thing about it is that it can be started right at home.

Zeny Perez, owner of Craft World, says glass etching is not only an interesting hobby, but a source of additional income, particularly for housewives.

How Tos

"Glass etching is a good method of personalizing glass materials and turn windows, mirrors and glass items into beautifully etched fixtures," Perez adds.

The craft can be easily learned in less than an hour, and then mastered after constant practice. Once the entrepreneur gets the hang of it, it would be easy to apply any design.

"The trick is to know the basics of glass etching, and then afterwards, you can personalize items by using your own designs," Perez says.

The basic materials include leading paint, etching cream, resist liquid, acid resistant stickers and cut glass. Most of the capital will be used to purchase 300 pieces of cut glass that are sold for P30 to P50 each.

The required materials are two to three bottles of leading paint, etching and resist liquid.

With glass etching, the entrepreneur can produce personalized gifts, suited for Christmas, birthdays or Valentine's Day. It is also one method used to produce glass paperweights, perfect as giveaways for the corporate market.

Two methods

There are two techniques to glass etching. The first uses acid resistant stickers and etching cream.

The first step under this method is to clean the surface of the glass. Then, paste the acid resistant sticker. The sticker may either have a ready-made or personalized design.

Cover with masking tape all portions of the glass that have not been covered by the acid resistant stickers to ensure a perfect design. Cover the area of the design to be frosted with the etching cream. Let stand for five to 10 minutes before washing off etching cream with running tap water.

Remove the sticker and wipe dry to see the frosted design.

The second method uses leading paint, resist liquid and etching cream. Most people find this method easier.

Place the design under the glass and with the leading paint, trace the outline of the design on the glass. Let it dry for one to two hours.

Paint the outside of the design area with resist liquid. This is to prevent the etching cream from touching the glass.

Apply the etching cream inside the design area and let it stay for five to 10 minutes.

Wash off the etching cream with tap water and remove the resist liquid and leading paint. Wipe dry. Color may be added on the etched glass using any oil-based coloring materials.

One advantage of this business is that there are no overhead expenses. The budding entrepreneur will only pay for the materials used in producing the giveaways or glass designs.

Perez says the return on investment can be as high as 100 percent, enough to compensate for the labor.

However, the entrepreneur needs to be competitive and think big even if it is just a small business.

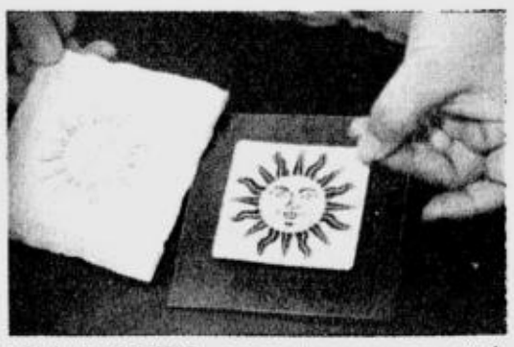
"You need patience, creativity and interest in this kind of craft, if you want to keep the business bustling," Perez explains.

Perez adds that the interested businessman has to create samples or models, go around and offer the craft to various companies for potential subcontracting. Otherwise, do not expect the business to go far.

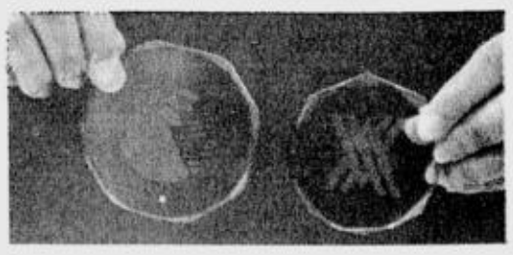
However, she still advises people to relax and simply have fun while doing glass etching.

"Just think of it as a hobby with a profit, " she says.

(For more information, call Zeny Perez of CraftWorld, Park Avenue, Robinson's Galleria. Tel. No. 634-5882)



THE BUDDING entrepreneur can etch personalized designs on glass to suit different clients. PHOTOS BY ROGER CARPIO



A START-UP capital of P15,000 is enough to get the business of glass etching started.

Palawan . . .

(From page B8)

"We are dismayed because we should be having more bookings this July," she tells the INQUIRER.

Liberato is pining for those days when Dos Palmas got back-to-back bookings, when arriving guests would immediately take the place of those leaving. Although in some days they had to work until 4 a.m., she said the compensation was worth it.

During its lean season, Dos Palmas would have at least 20 guests.

Low-key

Dos Palmas has decided against marketing aggressively until all the Abu Sayyaf hostages are released. Everything has to be low-key for now.

The resort has slashed its rates. From as high as P9,000 per person, it now offers three-day, two-night, all-expenses paid vacations packages for as low as P6,000 per person.

So far, the resort has been able to reel in a fairly good number of guests, including VIPs like Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon, Villa Escudero's Ado Escudero and former Finance Secretary Romeo Bernardo, to keep the employees busy.

"We're doing okay and things are slowly picking up," says Lyba Godio, Dos Palmas' resident manager. "At least we're not doing zero because of our day tours."

Security

Security has been beefed up around Dos Palmas.

Dos Palmas' chief security officer, Rene Macapili, an ex-Marine lieutenant, said the Abu Sayyaf managed to get in only because they were allowed to get in. Reports showed that the resort's guards mistook the Abu Sayyaf bandits for soldiers and allowed their boat to dock.

Macapili said had the guards been more alert, they would have been able to offer some kind of resistance and prevent the bandits from docking.

To make sure no such intrusion would happen again, Dos Palmas has hired additional security men and acquired more high-powered firearms, including "Streetsweeper" shotguns. There is also a regular police detail stationed on the island.

Macapili said he had given his men new drills and introduced a system to make sure they would be on patrol and alert 24 hours a day, especially late at night until dawn, when the chance of an intrusion was greater.

He says the new system will allow his men to react quickly in case a sudden attack ensues and hold their line just long enough for reinforcement to arrive.

"We take note of everything, especially engine noises from bancas, and we are glued to our radios constantly," he says.

The security detail around the island tries to be as inconspicuous as possible. The only guards visible to guests are those stationed at the boarding dock. The rest are scattered around, manning possibly entry points.

Apart from these precautions, most of Dos Palmas male employees are also undergoing militia training with the Citizens Armed Forces Geographic Unit.

Macapili said although he does not relish the thought, he would like to see the Abu Sayyaf make a go again at Dos Palmas. "We'll be ready this time, and they won't be taking anything away," he said.

Stigma

Despite the additional security measures, Godio, the resident manager, concedes that "there's still a stigma" that will take time to remove. But Dos Palmas and its workers are holding on.

Godio said most of the employees chose to stay despite the risks. If there was anything good that came out of the Abu Sayyaf incident, she said, it was that it brought them closer and gave them more confidence.

"Not a lot of people can cope with this lifestyle, but I'm happy. I cannot imaging staying in Manila again," says Godio, who used to work as an account manager for a hotel in Metro Manila.

Liberato said she was already set to leave even before the Abu Sayyaf incident, but she had chosen to stay for a few more months. "I didn't want to leave the company this way," she said.

Godio is hoping that things will pick up when the peak season begins in October. She is confident that Dos Palmas will continue to sell itself, and that the innate beauty of the place will overwhelm whatever negative image it has.

SundayBIZ

Palawan resort turns tragedy into opportunity

BY RAUL C. DANCEL

PUERTO PRINCESA, Palawan—Dos Palmas, one of Palawan's get-away-from-it-all paradise, is still in shock nearly two months after the Abu Sayyaf came and abducted 20 of its guests and employees.

It is, however, working hard on recovering from the experience and make the most out of the fact that its name has become a household word.

Dos Palmas, named after the island's two 80-foot buri palms, lies in an unspoiled region blessed with beautiful beaches, virgin mangrove forests, a wildlife sanctuary and an underground river.

It offers very little of the regular fare of most beach resorts. There are no newspapers, no telephones and only two televisions—in the two bars.

Landscaped gardens with over 150 varieties of plants dot the island and many of the residential cottages are built on stilts over the water.

Puerto Princesa is about an hour's boat ride away.

Dos Palmas was in its "boom year" when the Abu Sayyaf came. All its 50 rooms were occupied and bookings ran the whole length of a year. In less than three years, it had built up a reputation rivaling the more upscale resorts of El Nido and Amanpulo.

> The people behind Dos Palmas are hoping to put everything behind them so they can move on. They are, however, shelling out a huge sum just to keep the place running

Tragedy

Its owners were planning to celebrate its third-year anniversary with a big bash when tragedy struck. On May 27, the Abu Sayyaf came and, in less than 20 minutes, tore down three years of hard work building up Dos Palmas' name as one of the country's top tourist destinations.

After the attack, clients began canceling reservations; in just a few weeks, employees were outnumbering guests 10 to one. It had all been downhill from there.

The people behind Dos Palmas are hoping to put everything behind them, so they can move on. Rather than close the resort temporarily and wait for the negative publicity to die down, the low-key Lim family of Davao, majority owner of Dos Palmas, have decided to run things as if the Abu Sayyaf never came.

They have assured their employees that there will be no layoffs and pay cuts and are making an effort to show their clients that it's business as usual as far as they are concerned.

Huge sum

They are, however, shelling out a huge sum just to keep the place running. It costs about P100,000 a day to maintain the 20-hectare resort. It has its own power plant and desalination facility, and it takes at least 130 people to make sure everything works the way they should.

Dos Palmas' employees are feeling the financial pinch. With very few people coming, the resort's waiters, cooks, janitors, maintenance crew, security and marine sports personnel, and administrative staff have to make do with their basic salaries.

When business was booming, they could each bring home at least P4,000 in service fees to supplement their monthly income. All that is gone now.

Cecille Liberato, a kitchen staff who has been with the company since the beginning, says she and her co-workers are more concerned now about their financial security than the Abu Sayyaf returning to Dos Palmas.

PALAWAN/p.B7

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HSBC

YOUR WORLD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1492, series of 2001

Tilapia fingerling production is big business

BY ANSELMO ROQUE
PDI Central Luzon Desk

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ—Production of *tilapia* fingerlings is a big income-generating project for entrepreneurs in the countryside especially as demand from fishpond operators for fingerlings continues to rise.

Pond culture of *tilapia*, a freshwater fish species native to Africa, to marketable size takes only three to four months.

Every time a fishpond owner or fish grower starts another growing cycle, he would need fingerlings from reliable producers if he is not engaged in the production of fingerlings.

Stocking rate for a hectare of fishpond is from 20,000 to 30,000 fingerlings depending on the management culture that the fish grower is applying.

According to fisheries experts here, more and more farmers, entrepreneurs and big businessmen are attracted to commercial production of *tilapia* because of the big demand in the market.

Estimates showed that over 200,000 metric tons of *tilapia* are produced yearly by the country's fish growers, making the Philippines among the top *tilapia* producers in the world.

Tilapia, which has a soft, white meat, is now the top freshwater fish species in the country.

But fishery experts here recall that in the early 1950s, freshwater fish growers in the country disliked *tilapia* because this species tended to overpopulate the pond resulting in unmarketable harvests.

Experts said this fish species multiplies rapidly.

Continuing research and development done by experts from the Freshwater Aquaculture Center and the College of Fisheries of the Central Luzon State University (CLSU-FAC) here resulted in the improvement of the breed of *tilapia*.

The National Freshwater Fisheries Technology and Research Center (NFFTRC) of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources at the CLSU campus here has also done thorough research on the improvement of this species.

Experts of these agencies, in collaboration with fish experts from other countries, developed two *tilapia* strains that were said to be more profitable now to grow in the ponds than the strains introduced in the country five decades ago.

These new strains are the Genetically Improved Farm Tilapia (GIFT) and the YY-male *tilapia*.

The GIFT was improved through crossbreeding of the best *tilapia* strains in the world while the YY-male *tilapia* was improved through genetic manipulation.

Fishery experts here said they will soon introduce another *tilapia* strain to fish growers.

Pond development

A study on the production of fingerlings of the genetically male *tilapia* conducted by Ruben Sevilleja, director of the CLSU-FAC, showed that a producer could recoup his capital, with a relatively "handsome" profit, in a year.

His study covered a half-hectare pond devoted to *tilapia* fingerling production.

This half-hectare pond, Sevilleja said, is capable of producing a minimum of 1.5 million fingerlings a year. Each fingerling costs a minimum of 20 centavos.

Sevilleja's study indicated the following expenses for the development of the half-hectare pond:

- P56,250 for the development of nine 250-square-meter breeding ponds, three 250-sq.m. nursery ponds and a 750-sq.m. broodstock rearing-holding pond and canal system;
- P6,500 for water control structures at P500 per pond;
- P50,000 for pump and well (4" pump powered by 7.5 horsepower diesel engine) including pump house and accessories;
- P25,000 for an all-purpose farmhouse (50-sq.m. floor area at P500 per sq.m.);
- P10,000 for nets (hapas, seine, fry collection net, etc.); and
- P5,000 for miscellaneous equipment like buckets, weighing scale, oxygen tank, shovel, etc.

Total cost would reach P152,750.

For fingerling production, breakdown of expenses for eight breeding cycles are as follows:

- P3,600 for broodstock (1,125 breeding packages consisting of Size-24 fingerlings; each package consists of one YY-male and three YY-females);
- P1,875 for fertilizers (chicken manure at P50 a bag and 16-20-0 at P375 a bag);
- P25,000 for feed (fry mash for fry nursing at P360 a bag and finisher for broodstock at P350 a bag);
- P10,200 for hired labor (85 man-days at P120 per man-day);
- P6,000 for fuel and oil at P500 a month;
- P29,531 for royalty payment (based on royalty payment of P17.50 per 1,000 fingerlings);
- P30,000 for other expenses like food of caretaker and hired laborers, repairs and maintenance etc. at P2,500 a month); and
- P11,000 for incidental expenses.

TILAPIA/p.B7

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Very competitive salary
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BOX #888
Quad 3, Ayala Center, Makati
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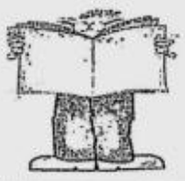
Resumé
Copy of CPA Licensure Exam Result (if CPA)
2x2 Photo
One page essay about yourself
Contact address and phone number

Where you find the best.



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CORPORATE HEADQUARTER:
TRIAD HOSPITALS, INC.
13455 Noel Road 20th Floor
Dallas, Texas 75240

Initially, *Triad Hospitals, Inc.* will hire **100 nurses** for their following hospitals:

• DeTAR Hospital •
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• College Station Medical Center •
1604 ROCK PRAIRIE COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77845 (www.csmedcenter.com)

Triad Hospitals, Inc. through its affiliates, owns and manages hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers in small cities and selected high growth markets. The merger of Quorum Health Group, Inc. into Triad will create the third largest publicly owned hospital company in the United States, with 49 hospitals and 14 ambulatory surgery centers in 16 states with approximately 9,000 license beds. The company completed a spin-off and began operations as an independent company on May 11, 1999.

Russell Baird of HEALTHSTAR INTERNATIONAL INC. (Wharton, Texas based) will accompany Sammie Drehr of DeTAR HOSPITAL and Rebecca Marinos of COLLEGE STATION MEDICAL CENTER in the development and selection of candidates.

To take advantage of this opportunity, Metro Manila candidates must personally apply asap or no later than August 6th, 2001 by submitting comprehensive resume, school records (diploma, transcript of records), board rating, training certificates, employment credentials, plus two (2) passport photographs to:

IPAMS
since 1972
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1455 Leon Guinto Sr. St. Malate, M M
E-mail: ipamsus@info.com.ph / Fax # 521-1189
website www.ipams.com.ph

- IN-HOUSE NCLEX REVIEW IS PROVIDED -

The Department of Trade and Industry is in need of managers for the following offices:

dti DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES

Candidates must have technical expertise vis-a-vis the target position. Positions offer more than technical management, thus, s/he must have a sense of professionalism, excellent people skill, leadership skill, and willingness to create a significant change and impact on the organization as a whole.

Bureau of Export Trade Promotion (BETP) Provides assistance to exporters and would-be exporters through timely delivery of relevant trade information, facilitates export trade transactions and extends market and product consultancy services.	**VACANCIES:** **ETP 1: DIRECTOR** **ETP 2: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**
Bureau of Trade Regulations and Consumer Protection (BTRCP) Overseas the overall implementation of trade regulation and consumer protection laws.	**RCP 4: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**
Management Information Services (MIS) Designs and implements a comprehensive management information system, provides technical assistance to the various information generating units within the Department, and establishes data exchange linkages with public and private agencies.	**IS 5: DIRECTOR**
Office of Operational Planning (OOP) Develops operating plans and programs and projects of the Department, evaluates the cost-effectiveness of various projects and activites of the Department.	**OP 6: DIRECTOR**
General Administrative Service (GAS) Provides services relative to procurement and allocation of supplies/ equipment, transportation, messengerial work, cashiering, payment of salaries and other Department obligations.	**AS 7: DIRECTOR**
Financial Management Service (FMS) Formulates and manages financial program, ensures availability and proper utilization of funds and provides an effective monitoring system of the financial operations of the Department.	**MS 8: DIRECTOR**

Please send CV/resumé or apply online to:

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
Human Resource Development Service
361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

hrds@dti.gov.ph

PLEASE INDICATE JOB CODE IN SUBJECT LINE OF EMAIL OR RESUMÉ.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION IS ON 31 JULY 2001.

Republika ng Pilipinas
KAGAWARAN NG KAGALINGANG PANLIPUNAN AT PAGPAPAUNLAD
(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT)
BATASAN PAMBANSA COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS, QUEZON CITY

The Early Childhood Development Project is in need of three (3) individual-consultants to undertake the Mid-Term Review of the Project being implemented in Region VI, VII and XII.

A. Team Leader (Project Management and Evaluation Specialist)

1. The Team Leader must have 5-10 years proven satisfactory track record in Project Management and Evaluation of social development projects involving national government agencies and local government units.
2. Must have at least four years experience in working on foreign-assisted projects (i.e., World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international financing institutions) and familiarity with Government (national and local) processes and procedures.
3. Must have no prior or existing work contracts with the Project.
4. Must be of good moral character.
5. Preferably proficient in any of the local dialects (i.e., Cebuano, Ilongo/Hiligaynon, Maranaw and Maguindanao).
6. Willingness to travel to the project sites.

B. Early Childhood Development Specialist

1. Must have 5-10 years professional experience in center-based and community-based Early Childhood Development programs and projects.
2. Must have at least two years experience in working on foreign-assisted projects (i.e., World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international financing institutions) and familiarity with Government (national and local) processes and procedures.
3. Must have no prior or existing work contracts with the Project.
4. Must be of good moral character.
5. Preferably proficient in any of the local dialects (i.e., Cebuano, Ilongo/Hiligaynon, Maranaw and Maguindanao).
6. Willingness to travel to the project sites.

C. Financial Management Specialist

1. Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and preferably an MBA degree holder.
2. Must have 5-10 years professional experience in project financial management organization, internal control, accounting system, financial management reporting, financial analysis, cash asset and liability management and proper auditing arrangement.
3. Must have at least four years experience in working on foreign-assisted projects (i.e., World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international financing institutions) and familiarity with Government (national and local) processes and procedures.
4. Must have no prior or existing work contracts with the Project.
5. Must be of good moral character.
6. Preferably proficient in any of the local dialects (i.e., Cebuano, Ilongo/Hiligaynon, Maranaw and Maguindanao).
7. Willingness to travel to the project sites.

The engagement is for a period of four months from August to November 2001.

You may send your curriculum vitaé and work resumé with letter of intent and samples of previous work engagements, to: **The Project Manager, ECD Project Management Office, 4th Floor, DSWD Building, Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City**, or thru e-mail address: npmo@ecd.gov.ph on or before July 27, 2001. No application will be entertained by phone.

DAEWOO ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CO., LTD.

Urgently needs the following Personnel for the Rehabilitation of Baguio-Bontoc-Banaue Road (Halsema Highway) Project:

☑ **One (1) Quality Assurance/Quality Control Manager**
☑ **One (1) Health and Safety Officer**

Must have at least ten (10) years of experience in mountainous area for civil, roads and bridges projects.

Preferably Baguio City/Benguet Province Resident.

Personally submit your resumé and credentials at Daewoo Field Office, Camp 30 Barangay Sapiangao Topdak, Atok, Benguet or call (074) 422-3210

WorldTel Technologies Inc., a distinguished contractor and consultant of high technology services worldwide needs experienced and skilled professionals team in the building of Optical Network Transmission and Mobility Networks both in GSM and CDMA.

A. Mobility Networks

1. **Installation and Commissioning (I&C) CDMA Engineers (for Mobile Switching Centers, Base Station Support Sub-Systems and Operation Support Sub-Systems or Network Management)**
   - The candidates should have the knowledge to install and commission Nortel or Motorola Mobile Switch Center and Base Stations (BTS). Excellent in preparing progress reports and resolving issues both technical and procedural. At least 2 years actual experience gained locally or overseas. Have supervisory capabilities.
2. **Operation, Administration and Maintenance (OA & M) Engineers**
   - Experienced in Base station activation/deactivation, Optimization & traffic usage and Performance analysis, clearing of alarms, network surveillance, management and configuration with other vendor equipment on a LAN environment. Experience in Unix (HP or Solaris). With at least 2 years hands-on experience.
3. **Network Commissioning Engineers Base Station (BTS)**
   - The candidates should have at least 1 year experience in putting into-service either NORTEL or MOTOROLA base station. Have at least 30 base stations commissioned/data filled. On Switching Equipment (Base Station Controller & Mobile switching Center) - Should be familiar in making recovery procedures, end-to-end testing, dimensioning and system documentation, reporting and interconnection.
4. **Site Engineers**
   - The candidates should have a working knowledge on BTS HW and operating environments and accessories. Knowledge on CAD release 14 or better is a must. Candidates should work in close coordination w/ RF engineer so that maximum performance is achieved for every installation both for the BTS, Antenna and associate peripheral. At least 1 year experience or has at least engineered 50 BTS.
5. **Antenna Riggers, Cable & Switch Equipment Installers**
   - With at least 2 years experience. Possession of vendor certification is an advantage. Graduate of technical courses.

B. Optical Transport Networks

1. **Optical Transport Engineers**
   - The candidates know how to install and commission Nortel SDH equipment such as TN-1X, TN-4X, TN-16X. At least 2 years experience and have experience to coordinate with customers. Graduates of BS ECE and EE.
2. **Optical Transport Technicians**
   - The candidates know how to install Nortel SDH equipment such as TN-1X, TN-4X, TN-16X. Technical School graduate. Must have a minimum 2 years of experience.

Applicants are advised to send application letters and CVs via email. Please send applications to:

WORLDTEL TECHNOLOGIES INC.
E-mail address: worldtel@pacific.net.ph or worldteltech@yahoo.com
Fax Nos. (632) 6555652

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TRAINORS

Shall conduct regular and daily orientations about the **SYSTEMS Consumers Empowerment Program**, benefits and privileges, following the outlined strategies as defined in the Business Center's Operating Plan.

COORDINATORS

Shall be responsible for the submission of required operational reports and documentations. Linkage development between BCO and Suppliers. Responsible in the Information drive of BCO's orientation schedule.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Male or Female; 21-25 years of age; with or without experience (but willing to undergo intensive training); with pleasing personality.
2. Fluency in written and oral communications a must.
3. MASS COM or business course graduate.
4. Has broad knowledge in Computer IT, Windows 98-00, Internet, Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, E-Commerce.
5. Willing to travel and be assigned in areas in Metro Manila, Visayas, Cebu, Panay, Negros, Luzon, Western/Northern/ Southern Mindanao, Puerto Princesa-Palawan, etc. *(Please specify area of choice and reasons on the attached application)*

SYSTEMS ANALYSTS
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS
ACCOUNTANTS
ACCOUNTING CLERKS
TELEMARKETERS

☑ **With relevant educational background and work experiences.**

☑ Apply in person with Application Letter, 2x2 pictures, 2 pcs. / 1x1 pictures, 2 pcs., Comprehensive Resumé, Transcript of Records and other necessary credentials.

Email Address: **service@rise-ecommerce.com**

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SALES TRAINING SUPERVISORS

Makati, Vigan, San Jose (Nueva Ecija), Balanga, Kalibo, Metro Manila and other provincial areas

The position is open to females with high leadership potential and background in sales and/or training. Will be tasked to handle training, development and motivation of the sales force. Must be willing to be assigned anywhere, independent and can travel alone. Degree holders preferably in Masscomm, Behavioral Science and other related disciplines. Pleasing personality and clear complexion. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

BRANCH OPERATIONS SUPERVISORS

Antipolo, Metro Manila and other provincial areas

Open to mature and highly dynamic young professionals with background in inventory management, accounting, credit and collection and office administration. Will be responsible for credit administration, warehouse management, and supervision of branch operations personnel. Willing to be assigned anywhere. Degree holders preferably in Accounting, Management or Business Administration. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

FIELD SALES & OPERATIONS MANAGER

Angeles, Olongapo, Ormoc, Puerto Princesa, Metro Manila and other provincial areas

Requires individuals who can make a high impact on sales and is able to oversee branch operations functions such as inventory control and management, cashiering, and accounting. Degree holders, preferably in a business course. Willing to be assigned anywhere.

Interested individuals are requested to forward their résumé with the latest 2x2 photograph and credentials to:

The HRD Division / HOUSE OF SARA LEE
2288 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City • P.O. Box No. 1450 MCPO
E-mail address: ESantos@hosl-ph.com
Please indicate POSITION and LOCATION ON THE ENVELOPE or IN THE E-MAIL SUBJECT.

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PLEASING PERSONALITY

FOR PAMPANGA/LUZON APPLICANTS:

COME FOR INTERVIEW ON JULY 23, 24, 25 (MON/TUE/WED) AT HOLIDAY INN CLARK, MIMOSA DRIVE, CLARK FIELD, ANGELES CITY, PAMPANGA OR CALL LITO - 0916-3035695.

FOR CEBU CITY/VISAYAS APPLICANTS

COME FOR INTERVIEW ON JULY 30, 31 (MON, TUE) AT THE TULIPS CENTER, A.S. FORTUNA ST., MANDAUE CITY OR CALL LINO (253-6969).

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Just bring two (2) clear copies of the ff. requirements:

1. CGFNS Certificate*
2. B.S.N. diploma
3. PRC license
4. Picture page from passport
5. Board Exam rating
6. Transcript of records
7. Resumé with 2x2 pictures
8. Work certificates

*those who are just waiting for their cgfns result may also come.

For Inquiries:
IHS Nurse Advocates
e-mail: louiseoco@yahoo.com
lori.schuetz@ihs-inc.com
www.nurseadvoctesusa.com

e-mail:
yourcareerlink@yahoo.com
phone: (02) 455-3856/455-4358
Text: 0919-845-3481
0919-618-3047

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Sales Engineers (Male / Female)

- Must be experienced in selling instrumentation and control products
- Aggressive, hardworking and with pleasing personality
- You must be a permanent resident of any of the following places (for provincial applicants only)
  1. Pampanga
  2. Bataan or Olongapo Zambales
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- As we need people who will work in their place of residence, you must be self-motivated and very responsible.

To the right party we offer basic salary, transportation allowance and the best commission and chance to travel abroad.

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For PROVINCIAL applicants, send your complete resumé either by mail, fax or email

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Makati City 1212, PHILIPPINES
Tel. No.: (632) 882-1811 / 0654 Fax: (632) 882-2150
E-mail Address: enriquez.companies@skylnet.net

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IMMEDIATELY

"MANAGEMENT TRAINEES"

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RESIDENTS OF: LOYOLA HEIGHTS, TEACHERS' VILLAGE, MARIKINA, ANTIPOLO, FAIRVIEW, TANDANG SORA, PROJ. 4
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International animal care organization is seeking experienced freelance journalist or photo-journalist for contract assignments investigating and documenting cases of animal neglect, abuse or cruelty for expanding public education program throughout the Philippines.

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P.O. Box 502 Greenhills Post Office
1502 Metro Manila, Philippines

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- ☑ computer aptitude and proficiency required; experience in computerized accounting system as well
- ☑ at least 5 years post qualification experience
- ☑ strong leadership and interpersonal skill
- ☑ age between 26 to 30

Qualified applicants may apply in person or send in comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture at:

3/F Unit F Westgate Tower
Investment Drive, Madrigal Business Park
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Philippines 1780

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Malate, Manila
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Look for Ma. Celeste Lagdameo-LHE
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- Male, 20 to 30 years old
- At least one year experience
- With knowledge in graphic softwares (Photoshop, Freehand, Illustrator, Premier, etc.)

OFFICE STAFF
- Female, 20 to 26 years old
- College graduate of any business related course
- Can communicate in oral and written English
- Computer-literate
- Flexible/Hardworking

Send resumé with photo to:
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We are a newly established water company specializing in water supply and wastewater treatment. We seek the services of a top notch Operations Manager to lead our dedicated team. Applicants should be suitably qualified individuals with initiative and judgment who seek the challenges associated with a new company.

The appointee will be located at the operations site located in Calabarzon and will report to the General Manager. He must be able to lead people, relate to customers and demonstrate energy and resourcefulness in his work.

Applicants should be licensed engineers preferably with MBA units, computer literate and with experience in utility or plant engineering operations in a managerial or supervisory capacity.

Please send a full resumé with a recent passport photo to:

MK-67
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F, Atrium Bldg., Makati Avenue,
Makati City

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

A trading company engaged in distribution of imported products is immediately in need of the following personnel:

2 SALES REPRESENTATIVES

To handle accounts for Northern and Southern Luzon
- ✓ Male, 25 to 35 years of age
- ✓ Preferably a graduate of any four (4) year course
- ✓ With experience in selling imported consumer products
- ✓ Familiar with area coverage of either Northern or Southern Luzon
- ✓ Sales proficient
- ✓ Hardworking and with pleasing personality

COMPANY DRIVER

- ✓ Male, 25 to 40 years old
- ✓ With professional driver's license
- ✓ With at least two (2) years experience in handling delivery truck vans (preferably with mechanical skills)
- ✓ Preferably a resident of near Pasay but others are also welcome
- ✓ Willing to work overtime

Interested parties may call Tel. No. 757-7552 for schedule of interview.

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Pila, Laguna Resl Lot w/ improvements 859 sqm	343,600.00	Palayan City, Nueva Ecija, Resl Lot 240 sqm	8,400.00
Ilagan, Isabela Resl Lot 600 sqm Agrl Lot 1,385 sqm	112,644.00	Palayan City, Nueva Ecija, Resl Lot 576 sqm/lot (4 lots)	20,160.00/lot
Candelaria, Quezon Resl Lot w/ improvements 400 sqm	407,608.00	Palayan City, Nueva Ecija, Resl Lot 1,000 sqm/lot (2 lots)	35,000.00/lot
Lamut, Ifugao Resl Lot 19,964 sqm	2,096,220.00	Palayan City, Nueva Ecija, Resl Lot 344 sqm	13,760.00
Cainta, Rizal Resl Lot 273 sqm	821,800.00	Palayan City, Nueva Ecija, Resl Lot 288 sqm/lot (2 lots)	11,520.00/lot
Taguig, Metro Mla Resl Lot 148 sqm w/ 2 houses	739,200.00	Zaragosa, Nueva Ecija, Resl Lot 2,000 sqm	490,000.00
Antipolo City Resl Lot 1,500 sqm	2,100,000.00	Bo. Guiwan, Zamboanga Resl Lot 1,000 sqm	55,000.00

Bid forms may be secured from the **Asset Management Office, AFPSLAI**, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City or from any AFPSLAI Branch. **Deadline for Submission of Bids is on July 27, 2001.** For inquiries please call telephone nos. 9116156, 9113734 or 9112032 local 2229.

ASSET MANAGEMENT OFFICE

(PDI – July 15 & 22, 2001)

BABCOCK BORSIG POWER SERVICE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Yolanda R. Princesa

whose picture appears above is no longer connected with Babcock Borsig Service GmbH. Any questions or queries regarding Babcock, please send to:

Babcock Borsig Service GmbH
804 South Center Tower,
Madrigal Business Park,
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
or
Roque Butuyan Gangoso Law Office
11th Floor, Antel Corporate Center,
Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City

(PDI - July 22, 2001)

"WARNING TO THE PUBLIC"

All transactions pertaining to the Almeda Properties in Brgy. Pulong Sta. Cruz, Sta. Rosa, Laguna, along South Luzon Expressway (between Coca-Cola and Nissan) must be coursed through Almeda, Incorporated, with office address at Marvin Plaza Building, 2153 Pasong Tamo corner Herrera Streets, Makati City. For everyone's own protection, avoid dealing with any unauthorized person.

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Invitation to Bid
Samar Island Biodiversity Project
PHI/99/G31
Consulting Service

The project is implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environmental Fund (GEF). It aims to protect a representative sample of the biodiversity in the Philippine archipelago through the establishment of the Samar Island Natural Park (SINP). The project will employ a community-based participatory regime as the main strategy in the management of the SINP.

The project requires the services of an individual or a consulting firm to conduct communication research. This survey will determine the information needs of the various sectors of contemporary Samareño society, with regards to biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management. The duration of the study will be four and a half (4½) months.

The subcontractor must not necessarily be Samar-based but should exclusively hire enumerators who are based in Samar or are native Samareños. A communications research methodologist should be part of the subcontractor's senior staff complement. The communication research methodologist must be a holder of a Ph.D in communication, or an MA holder in communication, and must have a good track record in accomplishing research projects.

In case the proponent is a firm, then it must be accredited as a national consulting firm by a recognized accreditation agency.

The complete Terms of Reference (TOR) for this consultancy is posted at www.undp.org.ph/bc/.

Five sets of original technical proposals placed in separate sealed envelopes clearly marked "Communication Research for PHI/99/G31: Envelope No. 1—Technical Proposal"; and five copies of original financial proposals placed in separate sealed envelopes clearly marked "Communication Research for PHI/99/G31: Envelope No. 2—Financial Proposal" should be submitted to the address below by 1300 hours on 10 August 2001. The technical proposals will be subject to review by a technical panel to be convened for this purpose. Bids that are received after the deadline will not be honored.

Together with the proposals, interested firms are requested to submit the following information: 1) General background of the firm; 2) List of similar work done; and 3) CV's of the consultants/experts to be tapped. Please submit these documents to:

Development Support Services Center
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Building
106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier)
P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box
1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail)
Tel. Nos. (632) 892-4528/892-0611 to 25, Fax Nos. (632) 815-4061/893-9598
Email Address: bc_admin.ph@undp.org

(PDI – July 22, 2001)

LOOKING FOR PROPERTY TO SELL

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission - Project Management Office is currently looking for a 5-hectare property for its proposed Septage Treatment Plant project. Among others, the property should meet the following criteria:

- ☑ Within Metro Manila
- ☑ Accessible to any major road/s
- ☑ Close to drainage line, creek or river
- ☑ Absence of informal settlers (squatters)
- ☑ Minimal/no reclamation requirement
- ☑ Minimal/no site development requirement
- ☑ Relative distance from residential areas

Interested property owners should send their sealed documents, together with the lot plan, vicinity map and price proposals, not later than August 3, 2001 to:

The Executive Director
Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
4F PMS Building, Arlegui Street
San Miguel, Manila

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY
PNOC Building VI, Energy Center
Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, M.M.
Tel. No.: 555-0254 / 840-1440

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY (PNOC) invites accredited Suppliers/Contractors to submit sealed bids for the following requirements:

Project #	Project Title	Pre-bid Meeting	Pre-Qual. Deadline	Bid deadline
WO 01-025 (Re-bid)	Sealing & Cleaning of Glass Curtain	———	July 27, 2001	August 9, 2001 2001 (2:00PM)
CD 2001-06	Analysis, Design, Development & Implementation of an Integrated Financial Resource Management System	August 2, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 10, 2001	August 23, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-034	Messengerial Services	July 31, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 31, 2001	September 13, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-038	Custodial Services (Janitors/Plumber/ Carpenter)	August 2, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 31, 2001	September 18, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-047	Custodial Services (Batangas)	August 2, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 31, 2001	September 18, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-039	Supply of Purified Drinking Water/Water Dispenser	———	August 31, 2001	September 20, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-040	Photocopying Services (Copier-Rental	———	August 31, 2001	September 20, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-042	Maintenance of Fire Protection System	———	August 31, 2001	September 20, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-041	Maintenance of PABX System	———	August 31, 2001	September 27, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-037	Pest Control Services (M. Mla.)	August 9, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 31, 2001	October 11, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-048	Pest Control Services (Batangas)	August 9, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 31, 2001	October 11, 2001 (2:00 PM)
———	Canteen Concessionaire	August 9, 2001 (2:30 PM)	August 31, 2001	October 11, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-045	Rental of Ornamental Plants	———	August 31, 2001	October 11, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-050	Security Services (Provincial)	August 14, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 31, 2001	October 16, 2001 (2:00 PM)
WO 01-046	Shuttle Services (2 buses)	August 14, 2001 (2:00 PM)	August 31, 2001	October 18, 2001 (2:00 PM)

Interested ACCREDITED parties may obtain bid forms upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00 per bid package from the PNOC - Property and Supply Management Division (PSMD) at the G/F of the PNOC Building.

Interested parties who are not yet accredited must first pass the pre-qualification process. Pre-qualification documents-checklist is available (M-F, 9am-3pm) at the said address upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00, which must be accomplished and submitted to PSMD on or before the set deadline. Failure to pre-qualify would render the concerned parties automatically disqualified from this bidding.

For purposes of clarifying issues, interested parties are encouraged to attend the pre-bid meeting as scheduled.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security equivalent to 10% of the total bid price but not to exceed ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00), secured from any one of PNOC's accredited bonding companies.

The PNOC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive formality therein or to accept such bids or to award any work that are considered most advantageous to the company.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. PEDRO A. AQUINO, JR.**
Senior Vice President
Legal, Admin & Estate Mgt. Services

(PDI--July 22 & 23, 2001)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
DECS Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Philippines
Sama-Sama sa DECS

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim
Office of the Undersecretary

INVITATION TO RE-BID

The Department of Education, Culture and Sports is inviting all manufacturers/suppliers of liquid full cream milk for the bidding of 2,083,000 packs of liquid full cream milk for feeding of Grade 1 entrants in the identified nutritionally depressed areas nationwide. The approved budget for the project is P10,494,998,00.

All interested manufacturers/suppliers must submit a Letter of Intent before obtaining bid documents starting July 19 to August 2, 2001 at the BAC Secretariat Office, Rm. 112-A, Mabini Bldg., DECS Complex, Pasig City or visit the DECS website at *http://www.decs.gov.ph.*

A pre-bid conference will be held on August 2, 2001, 10:00 AM at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Bldg. I, DECS Complex, Pasig City. The Submission and Opening of Bids will be on August 9, 2001 at the same time and place mentioned above.

DECS-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids.

(Sgd. **ERNESTO S. PANGAN**
Undersecretary
Chairman, DECS-BAC

(PDI--July 22, & 23, 2001)

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DISPOSAL SALE

USAID/Manila will conduct a Sealed Bid Sale of used office and residential furniture/equipment, appliances and computer equipment on an "AS IS-WHERE IS" basis.

All items can be inspected on July 23-25, 2001 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at USAID Warehouse, 2345 Aurora Blvd., (formerly Tramo St.) Pasay City. Bid forms are available at the site. Submission of bids and cash deposits (20% of the total bid) can be done at the site during the sale. Full payment and bid deposit refunds will be on July 26, 2001 at 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the USAID/Cashier, 8th floor, PNB Financial Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

For further information and lot descriptions, please call Mr. Manuel Fidel C. Holandez and Mr. Alfredo Q. Daluz at Tel. Nos. 831-2271, 514-4229, 514-4234 and 514-4236.

(PDI--July 21 & 22, 2001)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

MA. LETICIA T. MARASIGAN

The above person is no longer connected with The Insular Life Assurance Company, Ltd., since 03 June 1999. Multiple informations on "ESTAFA" have been filed against her before the Regional Trial Court Branch 20 and 90 in Imus, Cavite docketed as Criminal Cases Nos. 8475-00, 8476-00, 8477-00 and 8478-00. Warrants of Arrest have been issued. For any information as to her whereabouts, please call the Complaints & Investigation Staff, The Insular Life Assurance Company, Ltd., located at ILCC Corporate corner Commerce Avenue, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang Muntinlupa at Telephone No. **771-1917** or **771-1818 Local 3111 to 3115**. Any information provided shall be treated with strict confidentiality.

(PDI - July 22, 2001)

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421-1420 or **421-0343**.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to **Mr. FRANCISCO LIONGSON IV** to claim his share in the **ESTATE OF LOURDES LIONGSON Y VENTURA** within one (1) year from today by contacting the court-appointed administrators in **SP Proc. No. 97-4234** pending before the **Regional Trial Court, Pasay City, Branch 112.**

(PDI – July 22, 2001)

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"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, will live even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."

John 11:25-26

Our Dearly Beloved

PABLO K. ASUNCION, JR.

"Jun-Jun"

Peacefully joined His Creator on July 19, 2001 at the age of 43.

His sisters MAYLEEN A. BERNARDINO and PEANUTS A. SOTTO and brother BOYSIE ASUNCION; brothers-in-law MARIO BERNARDINO and ASTER SOTTO; sister-in-law BINGLE ASUNCION; his very special friend Paul San Pedro; nephews and nieces, Marvin, Mendel, Katrina, and Gelo; Jolina, Edward and Giselle; Erica, Earl, and Emina; relatives and friends request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the
Capilla de la Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio Parish
McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Interment will be held on ***Tuesday, July 24, 2001,***
at the Pasig Catholic Cemetery *after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 1:00 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Parish Church.*

Our Beloved "Tatay Emong"

MAJOR MAXIMO "ANDY" del ROSARIO

Former Finance Manager, ECCOI Phils.
Former Officer, ROTC HUNTERS ASSOCIATION, Rizal Chapter

Peacefully joined his Creator on July 17, 2001 at the age of 84.

His bereaved wife **CRESENCIANA**; children **MAGITING & LEONILA, MAKAIROG & VIOLY, LIWANAG & MARIO, LUALHATI & PONCIANO, MAGTANGGOL & ESTELITA, LIGAYA**; grandchildren **LOURDES, MAGITING TONY, BELEN, NOEL, ANDY, REGINA, MARILEN, JONATHAN, GENEVENE, HENRY, BRIAN, MICHELLE, BILLY JOE** and all his great grandchildren relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

He was a VETERAN.....
He was our HERO.....
He was LOVED.....

Message of Thanks

The family of the late

Magdalena Oben Mota

who joined her Creator on June 27, 2001

wish to convey our heartfelt gratitude to all those who offered Masses, sent flowers, visited and kept vigil, joined us in the burial rites, and in one way or the other condoled with us in our time of bereavement.

Mercedes M. Martinez

September 24, 1912 – July 19, 2001

Her husband **Diogenes**; son **Eduardo**; and sister **Natividad** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Loyola Memorial Chapel (Marikina), Chapel 1.

Interment will be at Angat Cemetery, Angat, Bulacan (date to be announced later).

CARD OF THANKS

The children – Blanche & Bert Gallardo, Baby & Freddie Diaz, Elvie & Tony David, Marita & Jim Anderson, Terri & Boy Munsayac, **Grandchildren**, and **Great grandchildren** wish to thank all those who sent flowers, had Special Masses said, gave generously of themselves and took the time to be with us to condole with us and share our grief over the loss of our beloved mother

ROSARIO GONZALES DAVID

who rejoined her Creator on 11 July 2001

May the Lord who sees everything done in secret repay you generously with His blessings.

Arch. JOSE GARCIA REYES

of Bacoor, Cavite
October 6, 1932 - July 20, 2001
Died in the Grace of our Lord at the age of 69.

His bereaved wife **Trinidad**; sister **Concha**; sister-in-law **Lina**; children **Chito** and **Solly, Arnie** and **Sol**; grandchildren **Mika, Miggy**, and **Mikee**; nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie at his residence at 115 A. Evangelista Street, Banalo, Bacoor, Cavite.

Interment will be at Bacoor Memorial Park after the 3:00 PM Mass at St. Michael Parish Church on a date to be announced later.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

Loyola memorial chapels, inc.
Loyola Crematorium
Loyola Memorial Park Chapels & Crematory Services, Inc.

EDSA corner Bernardino Street, Guadalupe Viejo, City of Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: 895-1011 to 19; 895-0797; 895-8868; 896-3588; 890-0945; Fax Nos.: 895-8868; 895-3588; E-mail: lmci@i-manila.com.ph

Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue, Tanong, Marikina City 1800
Tel. Nos.: 941-3196 to 98; 941-3676; Telefax 941-3577

We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from death. He will raise us to life with Jesus. He will present us, along with you, to God.

2 Cor ...

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

BENJAMIN V. CELLONA, SR.

would like to thank friends and relatives who supported us during our bereavement.

So lovingly remembered...
So deeply missed...

Dr. Felicidad Batoon-Ortiz

(August 28, 1922 – July 22, 1978)

On her 23rd Death Anniversary

The Family, The Management & Staff of Far Eastern Polyclinic

Request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again.

2 Cor. 5:4-5

FLORENCIO YANG

passed away in the Grace of our Lord on July 20, 2001 at the age of 79.

His bereaved wife **Elsa**, his only child **Deborah** and his son-in-law **Ernie**; nephews, nieces, friends and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Q.C.

The body will be transferred to Candon, Ilocos Sur on July 24, 2001 at 10:00 P.M.

Interment will be on Saturday, July 28, 2001 at 7:00 A.M. at Candon Catholic Cemetery.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS •
• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS •

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
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Tels. 747-8599; 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch:
A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City
Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
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Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manugul, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133
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219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
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Tels. (045) 888-2959 ; (045) 322-5247
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13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City;
Tels. 646-1725; 646-1730
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Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
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Magallanes Village, Makati City
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16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286 / 87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-3797; 844-7846; 843-1801; 845-4836

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

"I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in Me, though he should die, will come to life."

John 11:25

Ambassador (ret.)
PROTASIO S. PABLO

October 23, 1927 – July 19, 2001

Passed away in Reseda, California, U.S.A.

His beloved wife **Adelaida**; children **Adelina** and **Rafael, Fernando** (†), **Carolina**, **Wilfredo** and **Bonny**, **Enrique** and **Araceli**, **Lisa** and **Cesar**; grandchildren **Dalton, Sophia, Sebastian** and **Mia** request the pious readers and those whose lives he touched to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

The funeral will be at Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills, California on Monday, July 23, 2001.

SIONG DIO D. TIUTAN
(TAN SUY)

Joined **LEE TEE GO** & **NG PIN GIAH** peacefully in the Grace of our Creator on July 20, 2001 at the age of 92.

His bereaved children **THOMAS** & **ANNIE, TONY** (†), **MARIANO** & **VICKY, RICHIE** & **MARLO, JOSIE** & **ERNIE RODRIGUEZ, ROBERT** & **BEL, CESAR** & **MALU,** and **MIKE** & **ESTHER**; together with his grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and friends request everyone to pray for the eternal repose of his soul and to rejoice with us at his return to our Creator.

His remains lie in state at Faith Chapel of Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, July 29, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque.

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Times City News Agency, #8 Mt. Province Alley, 2nd Floor Mahanina Livelihood Center Baguio City
Tel. Nos. (074) 443-4533/443-3178/443-4281
Mr. Rey Bilisan
City News Agency, #38 Magnolia Alley, Mahanina Livelihood Center, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 442-8176
Mr. Juanito Cuesta
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R&B Perez Building, 46 D. Silang Street, Balanga City
Tel. Nos. (047) 723-0615/(63)920-8342
Bulacan
Mr. Manolo Iñigo
Fauna Village, Talang Ibig, Matias, Bulacan
Telefax (044) 633-1214 Easy Cell 141-207284
Mr. Rodolfo D. Gregorio
203 Hda. St. Tarcan, Bagong Buhay
Cel. No. (0918) 407-0045 Tel. No. (044) 766-1880
2nd Floor PED Building, Barona St.
Poblacion, Sta. Ana, Bulacan
Cabanatuan City
Mr. Ruel Dapula
47 Senianon Street, Kapt. Pepe Subdivision
Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel. No. (044) 463-0823. E-mail: rucap@mozcom.com
City Supermart
Sta. Isabel Street, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel. No. (044) 463-[illegible]49
Mr. Raymond Pedro
#837 Burgos Street, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
Tel. No. (044) 464-8202

Nueva Vizcaya
Richmar John L. Manzano
Nueva Vizcaya Trave & Tours
Poblacion North Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Telefax No. (078) 8257179
Pampanga
Mr. Noel Cabrera
Lot 4 Block 83 Phase II
Corner St. Peter and St. Jude Streets
St. Jude Village San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. Nos. (045) 963-3719/(0918) 605-8249
Ocampo Building, Diosdado Hizon Ave.
McArthur Highway, Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. (045) 961-3767
e-mail: ocampo@pamp.pworld.net.ph
Pangasinan
Mr. Wa Chua
JVC Cargo Forwarding Co. Ltd
#43 Rizal Street, Caoayan, Pangasinan
Tel. No. (075) 522-0606/522-0550
Mr. Mario Noveles
Mangaoi Bookstore
AB Fernandez Avenue, Dagupan City, Pangasinan
Tel. No. (075) 522-2328 Fax No. (075) 522-0079
Mr. Herminio Ramirez
Romarez Trading
Rizal Street, Poblacion, Mangaldan, Pangasinan
Tel. No. (075) 523-3604/523-2872
Puerto Princesa
Ms. Angelica Leganzo
Leganzo Merchant
E. Valencia Street, Puerto Princesa City
Tel. Nos. (048)434-2900/433-2531/433-2551
Mr. Tomas Chay Tan
45 Quezon Street, Puerto Princesa City
Tel. No. (048) 433-2662, Cell No. (0918) 8332737
Tuguegarao
Mr. Richmond Pabra
Agganay Newsstand Stall #7 Tuguegarao Central Market
Gomez Street, Tuguegarao, Cagayan
Tel. No. (078) 844-1180/844-0364
E-mail: jabra@pworld.net.ph
Tarlac City
Mr. Ernie I. Dumlao a/c Ms. E.D. Bautista
F. Tanedo Street, Tarlac City
Tel. No. (045) 982-0653 Cell No. (0917) 448-0581
Fax No. (045) 982-1785
Laguna
Mr. Fernando B. Hernales
Residence #10 Manzanar Street
Mercedes Pueblo Ubi a/c Ruel Laguna
Telefax (049) 531-8776/549-837-0623/(0918) 818-0859
Store #230 J.P. Rizal Street, Cabuyao, Laguna
Tel. No. (049) 531-4829

Legazpi City
Ms. Susan D. Bayboy
MSU, Sea Exchange Co.
55 Pasaje de Escudero, San Pedro City
Tel. No. (052) 482-4587 Fax No. (052) 482-1444
Email: sdbayboy@msu.edu.ph
Iriga
Ms. Alice Pua Uy
Lucia's Store, Rizal Street, Cabusao, Iriga City
Tel. No. (054) 456-2279
Ms. Catalina Javier
Prism News and Magazine Agency
#34 Province Road, Centro East, Santiago City
Tel. No. (078) 682-4553/682-3620
E-mail: frejavier@mozcom.com
Legazpi City
Ms. Irene Salmorano
Brgy. 34 Oro Site, Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-1874/480-8099
Cathy P. Bendijo
BM Prieto Marketing
Quezon Avenue, Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 814-3043/214-3648/820-2748
Lipa City
Ms. Marilou Mantiego a/c Ms. Rose Perez
Life-Ines Successor Pasco Building, 71d Marave St.
Inner Loop Barrio, 4217 Lipa City
Tel. No. (043) 756/726/760-330
Email: nonoy@sia-ph.net
Naga City
Mr. Ramon B. Bie
RB Newspaper and Magazine Headquarters
Ground Floor Supermercan General Luna Street, Naga City Tel. No. (054) 472 8711
Sipul
Mr. Jesus Dimaglas
191 Cor. Quezon St. Angono, Rizal
Tel. Nos. 696-4530/697-0094
Quezon City
Gemalon Enterprise
2nd Tandang Sora Ave., Culiat, Quezon City
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We accept Classified advertisements
Lines, Recruitment, Obituaries, Bidding

in **Visayas**

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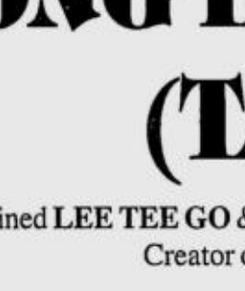

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Tel. No. (033) 508-2530
Fax (033) 509-0190
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Dra. Benso Candelario
R. B. Printing
Pastrana Street, Kalibo, Aklan
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Ms. Marlete Santos
Komika Magazines and Newspaper Dealer
Door C, MB Building, Fuentes Drive
Roxas City
Tel. No. (036) 621-5586/522-6925
Tacloban City
Mr. Neil Montejo
Montejo's Newspaper Supply
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Tacloban City
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Mr. Ferdinand Mercado
Doña Rosario Village
G. Penaflor Street
Tagbilaran City
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Bacolod City
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c/o In-hand Negros Inc.
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Mandalagan, Bacolod City
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Mr. Ramon Charles Sy
New Renie's
Dr. V. Locsin Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 225-4320
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Mapa Street, Iloilo City
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OMNI General Merchandise
Dr. 1 De Leon Building
Pabayo-Pacana Streets, Cagayan de Oro City
Tel. No. (08822) 722-530
Grandstar News and Magazines
122 Cruz Taal corner Pabayo Street
Cagayan de Oro City
Tel. No. (088) 857-2571/857-1612
Telefax: (088) 231-3246
E-mail: grandstar@hotmail.com
Cotabato
Marquez News and Magazine Agency
51 Sinsuat Avenue, Cotabato City
Tel.: (064) 421-3264
Davao City
Dabaw Periodicals, Inc.
Duterte Street, Davao City
(fronting Galleria Hotel)
Tel. No. (082) 226-4406/221-3379/221-3424/226-2931

Bebaechin ATBP.
Lower Level, Gaisano Mall, Bajada
Davao City
Ground Floor, Victoria Plaza, Bajada
Davao City
Tel. No. (082) 221-3927/227-4410
General Santos
Mr. Ramon Dimalanta
GSC Newscenter, Dimalanta Building
35 Pioneer Avenue, General Santos City
Telefax No. (083) 301-8731
Pagadian City
Mr. Eduardo Villar Clavero
Edmar News - Advertising Agency
Bonifacio Street, Pagadian City
Tel. No. (062) 215-1448/214-2641
Zamboanga
Mr. James Hao
Marlen's Variety Store, 86-88 Sevilla Street
Zamboanga City
Tel. Nos. (062) 991-4294/991-1438
Mr. Ruben Bautista
#71 C. Atilano Street, Zamboanga
Tel. Nos.: (062) 991-2965/(062) 993-2826

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
Collection District II B

MANILA INTERNATIONAL CONTAINER PORT

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 2601 to 2610 of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines, as amended, in correlation with CAO 5-90 dated July 17, 1990, as implemented by CMO 59-90 dated September 3, 1990, there will be a PUBLIC AUCTION SALE (Sealed Bidding), with floor price and without floor price on July 27, August 3, 27, 24 and 31, 2001 from 1:30 PM until terminated at the 2nd Floor, Customs Hearing Room, MICP, North Harbor, Manila, the herein described articles:

"MOTOR VEHICLES (ASSORTED BRAND), USED AUTO AND TRUCK REPLACEMENT PARTS, SONY TAPE DISPLAY STAND, PEEBLES, TIRES, SANDALS, SLIPPERS, ELECTRIC FAN PARTS, REFRIGERATION PARTS, ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES, MONO RAILS (NAIC RESOURCES), CHOCOLATE MOULDING ASSEMBLY PLANT (SERG'S PHILS., INC.), RTW'S, ANIMAL FEEDS, USED TIRES W/RIM, ELECTRONICS, JOGGING PANTS; FROZEN PORK AND CHICKEN, USED PERSONAL EFFECTS AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS, USED APPLIANCES, BED MATTRESSES W/ BASE STAND AND COVER, DARTBOARDS, WATERBORNE STAIN, UNFINISHED ELECTRONIC PARTS, SUGAR, DART BOARD, BED MATTRESS, IC PLASTIC TRAY, NYLON FILAMENT YARN, HESCO DEX SUPER 400, FERTILIZER, ANIMAL FEEDS, VERMICELLI, COCOA AND MANY INTERESTING ITEMS."

For particulars, please see or contact Mr. Isidro A. Pre, Chief, Auction and Cargo Disposal Division, MICP, Tel. No. 245-41-01 local 2283.

(Sgd.) **EMELITO V. VILLARUZ**
District Collector of Customs

(PDI – July 22, 2001)

PHILIPPINE 2000

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG KAGALINGANG PANLIPUNAN AT PAGPAPAUNLAD
(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT)
BATASAN PAMBANSA COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS
QUEZON CITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

July 17, 2001

Early Childhood Development Project
Loan No. ADF 1607

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has received a loan from the Asian Bank of the Philippines (ADB) in financing the Early Childhood Development Project (ECDP). Part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied for eligible payments for the Laboratory Service Contract for the Development of Micronutrient Field Test Kits as part of the Micronutrient Malnutrition Prevention and Control sub-component of the Project.
2. The Department of Social Welfare and Development, Project Management Office (PMO) of the FCDP, now invites sealed bids from eligible Laboratories to provide Consultancy Services for the Development of Micronutrient Field Test Kits.
3. Interested proponents may obtain further information and secure the complete set of bidding documents, upon presentation of a letter of intent, starting **July 23-27, 2001** from Ms. Ruth Limson-Marayag of the ECD Project Management Office at 4th Floor, DSWD Central Office, Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone nos. (632) 931-61-14/15, (632) 931-81-01 loc. 106 and fax no. (632) 9512806.
4. Technical and Financial Proposals must be received in separate sealed envelope (complete with all requirements) by Ms. R. Limson Marayag at the same address **not later than August 10, 2001, 3:00 p.m.** Bids must be accompanied by a bid security of two percent (2%) of total bid price. Late proposals will not be accepted.
5. Prior to submission of bid proposals, a **Pre-bid Conference will be held on July 31, 2001; 1:30 p.m. at the ECD Meeting Room, 4th Floor, DSWD Central Office, Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City.**
6. The DSWD Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality therein and/or accept the bids as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **LOURDES G. BALANON**
DSWD Assistant Secretary and
Chairperson, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI--July 21 & 22, 2001)

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AT: YOUNGS ENGINEERING CO., INC.
1264-1272 Aranota Avenue, Quezon City
ON: Saturday, 28th July 2001 at 10:30am
ON VIEW: Friday, 27th July 2001, 9:00am - 5:00pm & Morning of Sale
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: Php20,000 (Upon Registration)

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People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

Guillermo Garcia named Icom VP in New York

ICOM (International Communications Agency Network Inc.), one of the world's largest independent advertising agency networks, has elected a new set of officers – one of whom is Filipino – to lead the $3-billion network for the next two years.

Premier Maldonado and Associates CEO Franco Sotomayor of Puerto Rico and Adformatix chair Guillermo Garcia of the Philippines were chosen president and vice president, respectively during Icom's recent annual global meeting.

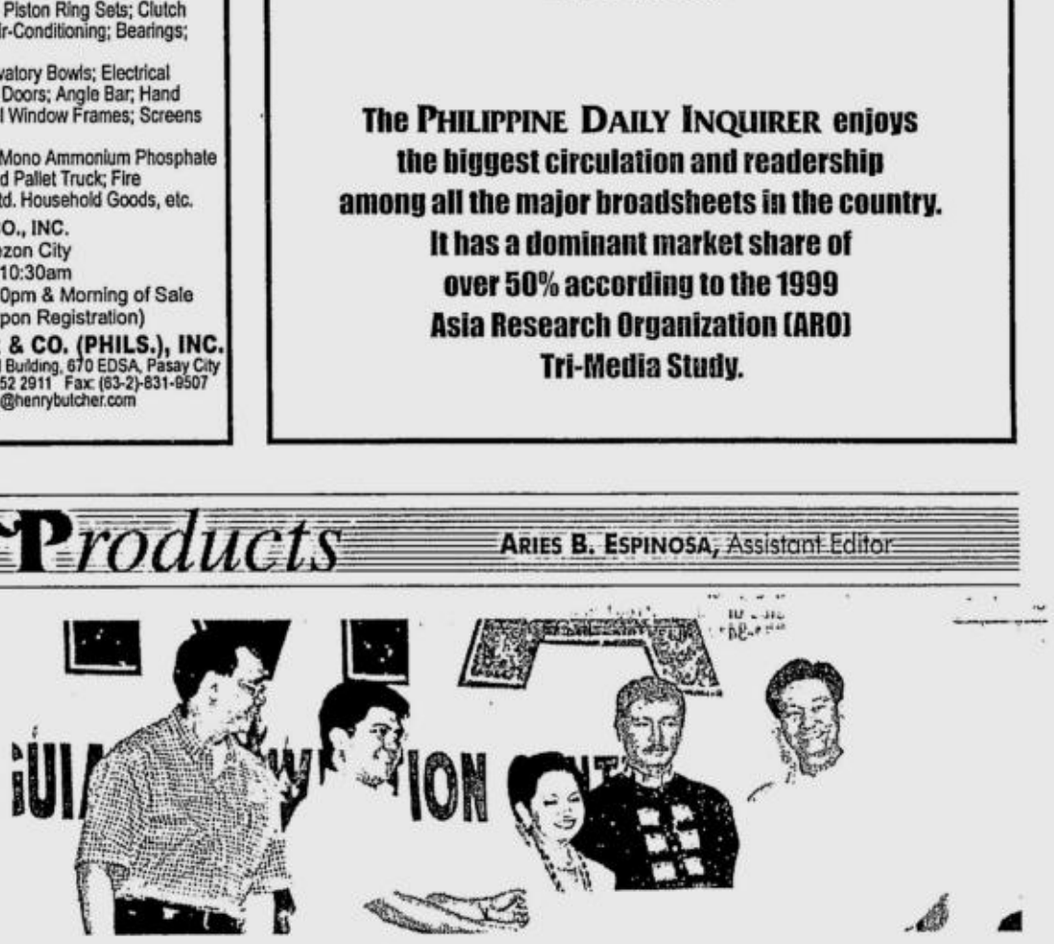
Sotomayor will lead a network that has more than 70 member agencies in over 40 countries, and which offers a full range of integrated and media communications service.

The new officers intend to recruit agencies in the Latin American and Asian market.

Both executives are experts in their respective markets. Sotomayor has worked extensively on the brand management and marketing of Colgate-Palmolive Co. and the former General Foods Corp. Since 1964, he has been with Premier Maldonado, Puerto Rico's largest independent agency which holds the American Airlines and Burger King accounts.

Garcia's company, which he founded in 1969, is among the country's leading independent agencies, whose clients include Promil, Advil, Centrum, Robitussin, UMC-Nissan, Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation, Nivea, Fedders, Sony, Hershey's, Wella and Yokohama.

Founded in 1950 as the National Federation of Advertising Agencies, Icom became the International Federation of Advertising Agencies Inc. in 1980. The current name was adopted in 1998.



TO GMA FROM FARMERS

In celebration of the 54th birthday of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, her 'cabalen' have prepared a special program for the exit episode of her program "Dighay-Bayan" with the theme, "Handog ng Magsasaka kay Pangulong Gloria." Highlights of the program are the testimonies given by the farmers and fisherfolk to the Arroyo administration and the awarding of checks and distribution of certificates to the various sectors. Shown above are Pag-ibig president and CEO Manuel C. Crisostomo, HUDCC chair Michael T. Defensor, President Macapagal-Arroyo, Pampanga Governor Manuel 'Lito' Lapid, and recipient Wilfredo Tan.

Pfizer holds clinical workshops for doctors

PFIZER Philippines Foundation Inc., a research-based organization committed to providing quality medical information, conducted its 12th Good Clinical Practice (GCP) workshop at the New World Hotel.

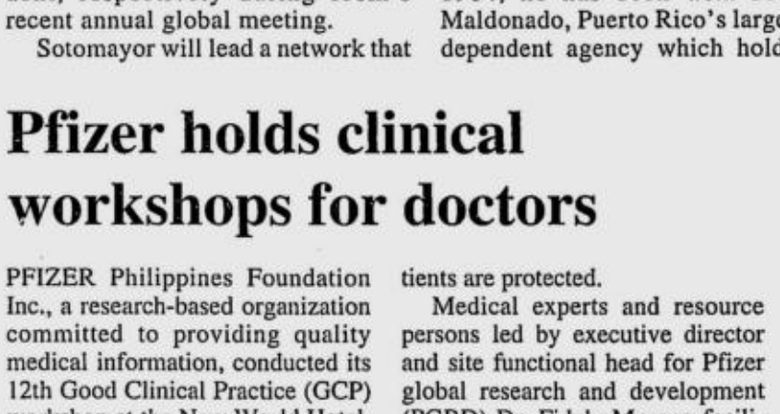
The primary purpose of the workshop was to introduce and train members of the country's medical community involved in research on the international standards of performing clinical trials.

Good clinical practice involves guidelines on ethical and quality standards for designing, conducting, recording and reporting trials that involve the participation of human subjects to help assure that the rights, safety and well-being of patients are protected.

Medical experts and resource persons led by executive director and site functional head for Pfizer global research and development (PGRD) Dr. Fidela Moreno facilitated the activity. Morena is a Filipino cardiologist based in Groton, Connecticut where the PGRD headquarters are located.

Participants of the workshops included department heads, clinical staff, and doctors from DOH, BFAD, private and government hospitals.

Pfizer Philippines Foundation Inc. is the arm of Pfizer that partners with the medical community for its academic and research endeavors.



'O-ILAW' ACCELERATES RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Energy Secretary Lito N. Camacho met recently with local officials in the municipalities of Tubungan and Alimodian in Iloilo to assure them that rural electrification is a priority thrust at the DOE. The 'O-Ilaw' program of the DOE accelerates the pace of energization and targets total electrification by 2004. With Secretary Camacho is board president of the Ileco 1 Vicente Perez. Camacho switched on 19 barangays in Ileco 1 during his visit.

ADOBE LECTURES IN GRAPHIC EXPO 2001

Graphic Expo 2001 held a seminar series on graphics and publishing last June 14 to 17 at the Philippine Trade Training Center, Roxas Boulevard. Marianne Young, one of the Adobe Certified Experts (ACE) in the Philippines, lectured on Photoshops power shortcuts, color management and scanning issues. Digimac, a training institute on multimedia arts, also joined the annual Graphic Expo 2001 exhibition and seminar series. Seated, from left, are Young, Jojo Feliciano, president of Digimac and Norelyn Babiera, vice president of Fiera de Manila Inc. Standing from left are Joan Grace Cerera, branch officer of Digimac and Angie Tuzon, marketing officer of Fiera de Manila Inc.

Kiddie shows at Country Waffles Greenhills

MORE than just the food and wholesome country ambiance, Country Waffles Restaurant in Annapolis Street, Greenhills now adds a new and exciting feature especially for kids. Kiddie Sunday Shows, ongoing all Sundays of July, feature a face-painting exhibition this Sunday, July 22, a magic show on July 29, and an ice cream dessert-making demonstration. All shows are free and will be held at the Country Ballroom of the restaurant at 2 p.m.

For the adult crowd, Bert Nievera's Duelling Pianos Music Lounge on the second floor of Country Waffles Greenhills will present singer Calvin Millado in a one-night show on July 31. The show, which will start at 9 p.m. is free for all dining guests. For reservations, call 722 4411 or 722-4422.

New corn hybrids display strong yield performance

SEVEN corn hybrids, including three new varieties with high yield performance were recently showcased by Pioneer Hi-Bred Philippines during the Com Technology Expos held in Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon and Malasiqui, Pangasinan.

The five hybrids planted in Bukidnon (3014, 30A65, 30M50, 30B29 and 30R49) displayed better resistance to Diplodia Ear Rot. Among these hybrids, 30M50 registered the best performance in limiting this disease's effects--70 percent better than the best competitor. 30B29, Pioneer's hybrid white corn, registered an even more impressive 76-percent better performance over its best competing hybrid. The hybrids planted in Pangasinan, (3013, 30A65 and 30D44) also registered high yields because of the use of the proper corn production technology developed by Pioneer.

The Diplodia is a fungus that causes both stalk and ear rotting. This reduces corn yield by killing the plant before physiological maturity of the grain, and rendering the grains unmarketable. By better controlling this highly destructive disease, increased yields are ensured, ranging from 8 to 10 metric tons per hectare.

Aside from showcasing the high-yielding hybrid line-up during the expos, Pioneer Hi-Bred also conducted corn crop clinics to address questions raised by farmers on issues like insect and disease presence and their proper control. Pioneer Hi-Bred likewise showed local farmers the recommended production technology, such as the proper plant spacing, farm irrigation, balanced fertilization, insect pest and weed (pest) control, and liming of acidic soils. These were intended to help farmers increase their yields. More than 4,500 farmers in the two provinces attended the events.

The two expos are part of Pioneer Hi-Bred's continuing tradition, which started in 1993, of showcasing better hybrids and corn-production technology to improve the livelihood of Filipino corn farmers.

Pioneer Hi-Bred Philippines is an affiliate of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, a Dupont business and the world's leading developer and supplier of advanced plant genetics to farmers worldwide. With headquarters in Des Moines, Iowa, Pioneer develops, produces and markets a full line of top-quality seeds and forage and grain additives and provides services to customers in nearly 70 countries.

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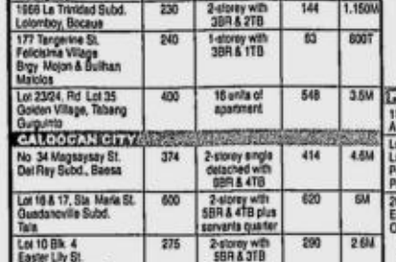
Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr. Area	Price
ANTIPOLO				
Lot 5 Blk. 1 Circumferential Road San Roque	283	3-door (3-storey comi units) with 3BR & 2TB per unit	515	3.9M
Lot 1066 A-32 nr Bentong St., Mayamot	300	1 unit of 3-storey with 5BR & 2TB and 3 units of 2-storey apartment with 3BR & 1TB	417	3M
BULACAN				
Interior Rd., Brgy Minuyan Norzagaray	1000	warehouse building	216	1.7M
1966 La Trinidad Subd. Lolomboy, Bocaue	230	2-storey with 3BR & 2TB	144	1.150M
177 Tangerine St. Felicisima Village Brgy Mojon & Bulihan Malolos	240	1-storey with 3BR & 1TB	63	600T
Lot 23/24, Rd Lot 35 Golden Village, Tabang Guiguinto	400	16 units of apartment	548	3.5M
CALOOCAN CITY				
No. 34 Magsaysay St. Del Rey Subd., Baesa	374	2-storey single detached with 6BR & 4TB	414	4.6M
Lot 16 & 17, Sta. Maria St. Guadanoville Subd. Tala	600	2-storey with 5BR & 4TB plus servants quarter	620	6M
Lot 10 Blk. 4 Easter Lily St. BF Homes Phase 3 Depang	275	2-storey with 5BR & 3TB	290	2.6M
Lot 12 & 13, Molave St. Bitanganan Subd. Bo Llano	480	2-storey with 4BR & 3TB	185	2.1M
36 Massabelle St. Gracepark	150	2-storey house	256	2.250M
Rivera Compound Bayanihan St. Baesa	145	3-storey with 5BR & 6TB	382	1.8M
MUNTINLUPA CITY				
Unit 423-C Arcadia del Granda Townhomes Carlos Galleria	58	2-storey with 4BR & 3TB	114	1.2M
Unit 423-F Galleria del Granda Townhomes Cupang	88	2-storey with 3BR & 2TB	111	1.050M
PARANAQUE CITY				
No. 808 Armela Comp. Km. 17 Int. of West Service Rd South Super Highway	3585.55	11 parcels of land (with 5 units of warehouse & plant site)		23.2M
Unit 315-E Abbey St. Goodwill Subd II Bo San Dionisio	111	townhouse unit		1.57M
17 Nuestra Señora de Soledad San Antonio Valley 9	264	a bungalow with 5BR & 2TB and 2-storey with 5BR & 3TB	421	2.4M
Lot 8 Blk. 16 Guijo St. Phase IV Multinational Village	150	2-storey house	194	2.1M
111 Kouros St. Camella Homes Brgy Merville	157	townhouse with 3BR & 3TB	155	1.4M
604 Pacific Coast Plaza Coastal Road		condo unit with 2BR & 2TB	187	6M
1401 Pacific Coast Plaza Coastal Road		condo unit with 2BR & 2TB	188	7M
No 3 E Aguinaldo St. South Admiral Village	375	2-storey with 5BR & 4TB	341	6.5M



Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr. Area	Price
PARANAQUE CITY				
Lot 9 Blk. 25, No. 14 Negros St., Marina Subd.	650	2-storey house with 5BR & 5TB	498	16M

PASIG CITY				
115 E. Santos cor A. Luna St., Barrbang	127	3-storey comi building	245	3.6M
Lot 11 Blk. 1 Lincoln Bend St. Parkwoods Green Subd. Phase 1-A, Mayburga	371	2-storey with 6BR & 3TB	376	5.5M
20th Floor Strata 2000 Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center Unit A Unit D		office unit (parking slot/ 400T)	250 265	8M 9.48M
QUEZON CITY				
Unit 4, 5th Flr. New San Jose Bldg. No 119 Sct. Fernandez St.		condo with 1BR & 1TB	43.16	1.1M
35 Frost cor Grant St. Filinvest Homes II	378	2-storey with 4BR & 4TB	288	3.5M
Unit 412 Century Imperial Palace Timog Ave. cor. T. Morato St.		condo with 2BR & 1TB	58.39	2.1M
57-B Gumamela St. Roxas District	31.05	2-storey apt with 2BR & 1TB	58.93	550T
Unit J-2B Potential Townhouse, 15th Ave. Cubao	111	2-storey townhouse with 4BR & 4TB	186	4.6M
25 Antonette St. Parkway Village M.H. Del Pilar St., Kalingin	360	3-storey resdl/ comi building	600	7.5M
Lot 4-B Doña Juliana St. Doña Carmen Subd.	60	townhouse with 3BR & 3TB	110	1.6M
21 Filomena St. North Susana Exe. Village Capitol District	180	2-storey with 5BR & 4TB	158	3.3M
39 Byron St. Filinvest Homes II Batasan Hills	260	3-storey with 4BR & 3TB	240	2.5M
No 60 Juan St. Hayaville Subd. Bahay Toro	494	2-storey with 6BR & 4TB	468.02	10M
SAN JUAN				
No 463 Don Ejercito St. Crystal Homes		3-storey townhomes with 2BR & 3TB individual parking		
Unit 5	34.5		105.50	3.1M
Unit 6	34.5		105.52	3.1M
Unit 7	34.5		105.52	3.1M
Unit 8	34.5		105.52	3.1M
Unit 10	35		107.64	3.2M
Unit 11	45		123.58	3.7M
Unit 12	45		123.58	3.7M
Unit 23 PA Eisenhower Condominium Eisenhower St.		condo unit with 3BR & 4TB, servants qtr with TB. 2 parking slots	209.55	15M
Unit 26 PA Eisenhower Condominium Eisenhower St.		condo unit with 3BR & 4TB, servants qtr with TB. 2 parking slots	209.55	15M
Unit 10 E One Beverly Place, Annapolis St. Greenhills		condo unit with 3BR & 2TB, with parking slot (1)	168	7.4M
CAMPECHO, LAGUNA				
203 Gladiola St. Camella Homes South	150	2-storey with 6BR & 2TB	174	1.7M

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Spouses **Primo J. Battad** and **Rosa T. Battad** was extrajudicially settled by their heirs as per Doc. No. 1817, Page No. 208, Service No. 3903, Series 2001 before Adello S. Cruz RP Vice Consul to Illinois, etc., U.S.A. (PDI-7/22, 29 & 8/5,2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late **IGNACIO MOSKITO** w/ waiver of share executed on Apr. 14, 2000, acknowledged before Atty. Elsa V. Perlas, Not. Public in and for the city of Pasig, Doc. #0957, Page #76, Bk#XC, Series of 2000.

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LOURDES YAP CUATICO has been self-adjudicated by her heir as per Doc no.1448, Book no.821, Book no.XXXVII Series of 2001 Notary Public Atty Manuel F. De Jesus of QC. (PDI-July 8,15 & 22, 2001)

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003	QUEZON CITY (Ramon Magsaysay High School)	043	PUERTO PRINCESA CITY (Holy Trinity College)	091	DIPOLOG CITY (Saint Vincent College)
011	BAGUIO CITY (Philippine Military Academy)	051	LEGASPI CITY (Bicol University)	094	ZAMBOANGA CITY (Western Mindanao State University)
012	LINGAYEN (Pang. Merch. Mar. Academy)	052	NAGA CITY (University of Nueva Caceres)	101	BUTUAN CITY (Urios College)
013	LAOAG CITY (Divine Word College)	061	BACOLOD CITY (University of Negros Occ. Recoletos)	102	CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY (CDO College)
021	BAYOMBONG (Saint Mary's University)	062	ILOILO CITY (Central Philippines University)	103	OZAMIS CITY (Misamis University)
022	ECHAGUE (Isabela State University)	071	CEBU CITY (Southwestern University)	111	DAVAO CITY (University of Mindanao)
023	TUGUEGARAO (Cagayan Valley State University)	072	DUMAGUETE CITY (Silimun University)	112	GENERAL SANTOS CITY (Notre Dame University)
032	CABANATUAN CITY (Pamantasan ng Araullo)	073	TAGBILARAN CITY (University of Bohol)	121	ILIGAN CITY (MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology)
034	TARLAC CITY (Tarlac State University)	081	CATBALOGAN CITY (Samar Regional School of Fish)	122	COTABATO CITY (Notre Dame University)
041	SAN PABLO CITY	053	MASBATE	113	KORONADAL

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

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BIRTH DATE: (DD) (MM) (YY) — BIRTH PALCE:

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___ High School Graduate _____

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H.S. Grade Pt. Ave.:

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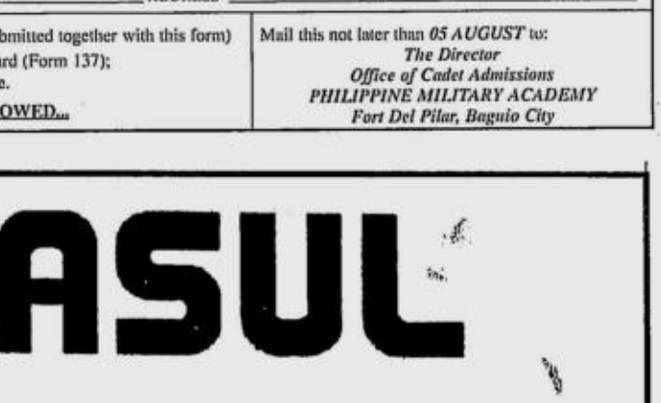
LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late OLIGUER R. AURE has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs on July 3, 2001 under Doc # 237; Page # 48; Book # 24; Series of 2001 before Notary Public Atty. Fernando T. Collantes of Pasig City PDI-July 22, 29 & Aug. 7, 2001

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JORGE V. ALIPARO was extrajudicially settled by his heirs on July 20, 2001 before Notary Public Atty. Ma. Jeanette Baccay under Doc.No. 98; Page No.20; Book No.I; Series of 2001. (PDI:July 22, 29 & August 05, 2001)



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Sunday LIFESTYLE

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

Beware the evil in the e-mail

COMPILED BY LITO ZULUETA

IS there someone out there in cyberland who has not received junk e-mail? Don't complain yet—there are worse things that can come to you through e-mail: hoax promos, malicious rumors, bogus testimonies of celebrities, etc.

Heard about the food poisoning at a certain fast-food restaurant? Or about the case of phone-snatching, mugging or car theft (choose your crime) at this or that shopping mall? And what about the story that circulated about tremors inside a newly renovated movie theater, hinting at bad construction in an effort to dissuade people from going there?

Have you ever wondered why it's always about a friend of a friend or a cousin of a cousin or a long-lost lover of an acquaintance? Sometimes a well-meaning person forwards you an e-mail that was in turn forwarded to her by someone else. If the content is something inspiring, you usually don't give a hoot about the person claiming to have written it. But when the content is incendiary or libelous, Internet users should beware.

It is good that people now have an instantaneous venue for airing their views and gripes, but the task of verification is often undaunting.

Since there's no way to police the Web, the public should exercise self-responsibility.

The same sense of propriety that applies to the use of the SMS (short messaging service or what is known hereabouts as texting) via mobile phones should apply to the Internet.

To safeguard against e-mail sent to us under phony names, Lifestyle will consider as valid feedback from readers only letters e-mailed to us containing the full name, address and telephone number of the letter sender.

JAIME C. Laya

Lies on Laya

DURING the past months, some people who have an axe to grind against **Jaime C. Laya** have been going around spreading lies and casting doubt on Laya's capability and eligibility as chair of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts. In all their sorties, these people raise the same issues repeatedly, in spite of the fact that they are all baseless.

Lie No. 1. Laya is an Estrada appointee. Laya was appointed by former **President Fidel V. Ramos** to complete the term of **Leandro Locsin** who died on Nov. 15, 1994. Laya was elected chair by the Board on Dec. 13, 1996. It took President Ramos a long time to find a suitable replacement for Locsin because all nominees that came before Laya were not welcomed by the artistic community.

Lie No. 2. Laya is ineligible to run for NCCA chair. According to the NCCA Committee Membership Rules, all executive Committee members may serve for two terms. He has just completed his first term (1998-2001) and is therefore eligible for a second term. His tenure as chair from 1996-1998 is not considered as his first term, because, according to NCCA rules, any appointment to complete another official's term is not counted as term of the replacement.

Lie No. 3. Laya resigned as chair. Laya never resigned. During the change in government, he wrote to **President Macapagal-Arroyo** to indicate "[that he is] happy to step down to make way for the President's choice for the chairmanship of the NCCA." In the same letter, he said "[he] is willing to assist the President's choice in going through the election process, which involves successive election as committee head, sector head and chair."

Pronouncedly mediocre

IT'S probably another aspect of the Filipinos' *mental colony* that while newscasters in other parts of the world, including those on CCN and BBC, are quite comfortable speaking in their native accents, the locals are trying their darndest to be more American and British than the Yanks and the Queen's compatriots. One only wishes that they would also take as much trouble learning the proper pronunciation of the words they have to read. It offends the ear to hear newscasters say "*aborigen*" when reporting on the recent Sydney massacre of a Filipino family. They could easily have checked and found out that aborigine is pronounced, to put it simply, *ab-o-ri-ge-ni*.

The same lack of effort also shows when they have foreign words or phrases to read. Tête-à-tête, for example, comes out as tea-a-tea.

From the reader

THE STORY by **Anne A Jambora**, "Are Our Malls Safe?" (PDI Lifestyle, 07/07/01), was very helpful. However, it saddens me that former journalist, now director for police communications, Maj. Gen. **Thompson C. Lantion**, was compelled to state in the article: "Malls are among the safest places in the metropolis, next to your home."

Next to your home? Excuse me. How dare he deceive the public into a false sense of security.

Last Friday evening, July 6, at a popular mall in Metro Manila, I narrowly escaped a kidnap attempt on my life. I was at the cinema after attending the Holy Mass in the mall chapel.

I will not go into the sequence of events of the attempted kidnap nor will I name the mall. Please know that I am very sympathetic to law enforcers who do their job and to business, and mean no harm to them by this letter.

My anger is directed at persons of every age and nationality who are engaged in terrorizing our country through every conceivable means.

Perhaps my anger is partially directed at ourselves as a people. Should we be doing more? If yes, what?

However, I'm grateful to brave souls in the media such as yourselves who tell the truth in the interest of a well-informed public. Another example is an early evening TV program that recently instructed us on how to survive thieves who thrive in the malls.

Like a good little girl last Friday, I clutched my bag extra tight in front of me. I even brought a huge, pointy umbrella to serve as a safe, deadly weapon. Just in case. Foolhardy thinking.

BEWARE/ p.C7

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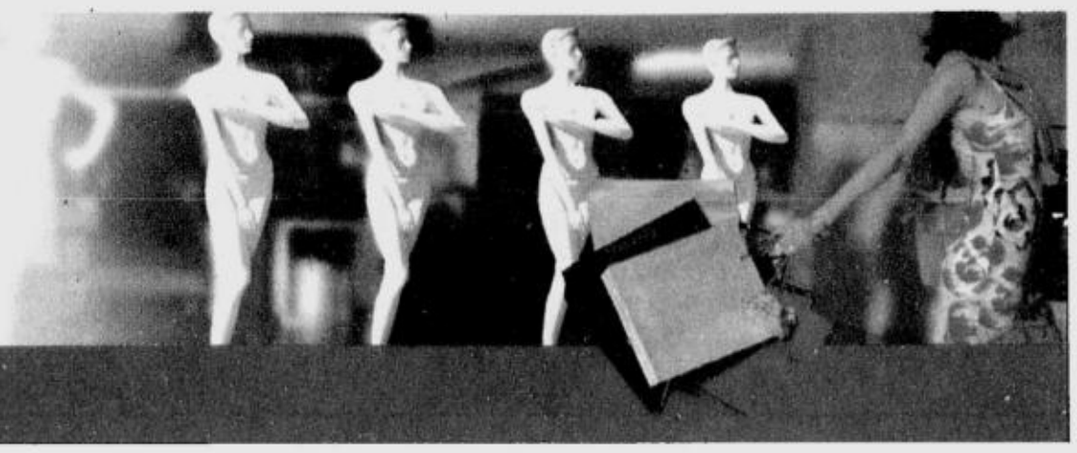

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- NUTRITION FLOAT PARADE
- INTERPRETATIVE DANCE CONTEST
- NUTRITION RALLY
- NUTRITION CHEERING COMPETITION
- SEARCH FOR LITTLE SUSY & GENO
- ON-THE-SPOT POSTER MAKING CONTEST

HOSTS:

Piolo Pascual and Janette McBride

FEATURING: Sustaboys

Watch out for the star-studded mini-concert by the "Tabing Ilog" cast.

And here's more...

Bring as many Sustagen or Sustagen Jr. scoops and foils to get new exciting fun items from Susy & Geno...FREE!

Mead Johnson Nutritionals
where good health begins.

for toddlers 1-5 years

for kids 6 years & up

DIABETES WEEK special supplement

JULY 22 - 28, 2001

I must, I can, I will overcome DIABETES

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo Inspires participants of past Diabetes Awareness Week celebrations to be vigilant in preventing Diabetes.

Schedule of activities

Everyone including diabetics, family, friends, neighbors or the plain curious is invited to the various activities scheduled today, 22 July 2001 at the *Festival Mall*, Alabang and *Harrison Plaza*, Manila. Discover new or alternative ways of managing the disease while being entertained. Avail of the opportunity to be screened for diabetes free of charge.

TIME	VENUE	ACTIVITY
8:30 am	Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), Manila	Fun Walk
9:00 am	CCP	Demo Exercise
9:30 am	Festival Mall, Alabang Harrison Plaza, Manila	Holy Mass
10:30 am	Festival Mall, Alabang Harrison Plaza, Manila	Formal Program
10:30 am – 2:00 pm	Festival Mall, Alabang Harrison Plaza, Manila	Cheer Dance Competition
Whole day	Festival Mall, Alabang Harrison Plaza, Manila	Diabetes Screening

"I must, I can, I will overcome diabetes." This year's Diabetes Awareness Week battle cry is a fitting reminder of the challenge of living with diabetes. The Department of Health estimates that 3 million Filipinos today have diabetes, with perhaps an equal number still remaining undiagnosed. These alarming numbers and the fact that diabetes has for years been one of the leading causes of death in the country have drawn the battle lines for the Philippine Center for Diabetes Education Foundation (PCDEF) which believes that half the battle against diabetes is won through education and awareness.

Today, the PCDEF, in cooperation with the Philippine Diabetes Association, kicks-off the Diabetes Awareness Week 2001. The week-long observance begins at 8:30 am with dual programs set simultaneously at the Festival Super Mall in Alabang and at Harrison Plaza in Manila. Today's scheduled activities feature a fun walk, demo exercises, and a mass. The formal program includes inspirational talks from the guest speakers and the guests of honor at both venues and a cheer-dance competition. The keynote speaker for today's affair at the Festival Mall is Dr. Rolando Enrique P. Domingo of the Department of Health while Dr. Zainal Ariffin Omar of the World Health Organization will speak at the Harrison Plaza. Stars such as Gary Valenciano, The Maneuvers, Maribeth Bicharra and Leonard Oval have likewise been invited to grace the affair. There will also be free diabetes screenings during the day. Free eye examinations will be held at participating hospitals for the duration of the seven-day celebration.

Also on 23 – 28 July 2001, an Intensive Training Course for Diabetes Educators will be held at the Mezzanine 1 of the Makati Medical Center. This five-day course aims to train various teams of diabetes educators who will manage satellite clinics for public treatment and information dissemination. The teams composed of doctors, nurses and dieticians are expected to return to their respective provinces and localities to set up their own Diabetes Educational Clinics.

Being aware, educated, and informed is half the battle. Join the ranks in combating diabetes. Join us in facing the challenge of living with diabetes. Come and participate in the Diabetes Awareness Week 2001. We must, we can, we will overcome diabetes.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIABETES SITUATIONER

Diabetes: Not a distant and isolated disease

- Diabetes is a modern-day disease that has afflicted three million Filipinos today with probably another 3 million remaining undiagnosed.
- Prevalence of the disease points out that its morbidity and mortality rates have skyrocketed in the last seven years. A Filipino is more likely to develop diabetes now than ten years ago.
- Diabetes is now the eighth leading cause of death in the country. During 1991-1995, on the average, diabetes was behind 1.6% of deaths in the Philippines. In 1996, this number had jumped by 40% to 2.2% of total deaths.
- About 98% of all diabetes cases in the Philippines is Type II diabetes.
- The disease can lead to complications and other ailments. Once afflicted, diabetics will have to live with it for the rest of their lives.

Public Diabetic

Angeli tells us how husband Gary V. copes with his condition

Prayer and education will cure diabetes—Angeli Valenciano

Gary Valenciano's having diabetes does not diminish our admiration of the total performer but is magnified by the seeming ease with which he handles the disease. He just seems to "shake" the illness off while onstage. However beneath the glitzy veneer is a daily struggle for Gary, his wife Angeli, his children, and all the people looking out for him at Genesis Entertainment. Angeli reveals the difficulties brought on by diabetes on Gary and his loved ones and how the disease has motivated them to go beyond its limitations.

Q: How difficult is it physically, mentally, and emotionally for you to see your husband suffer from diabetes?
A: Very few understand that Gary is almost like a living miracle that has required a lot of hard work, discipline, patience, perseverance, daily monitoring, and most important, faith and prayer. Just the other day Gary had a hypoglycemia attack at midnight. As I am a light sleeper I jump at the slightest sign of an attack, I rush to get orange juice or something sweet to combat insulin shock. I believe it has strengthened me mentally and spiritually. Once in 1999, he would not wake up. I administered first aid and got a tube of glucose gel and spoke to him even though he was unconscious. I told him he was having an attack and that he had to suck the gel. He did! But after ten minutes, it did not work. I was praying and singing a praise song as I waited and then did the entire procedure again. He was revived after 25 minutes. It is extremely difficult.

Q: If a public figure is a diabetic, should he hide his condition from the public? If Gary were not a celebrity, would you be open about his disease?
A: Diabetes is a disease that has to be discussed, as most people are very ignorant about the two types of the disease: Type I, which Gary has, is more severe and is called juvenile diabetes and Type II is adult-onset. There are still many who are resistant to monitoring, to discipline and to medication. Being a role model, hopefully, the celebrity who has an illness may be able to encourage others to excel and triumph over adversity. Gary struggles with his diabetes every now and then but he has been extremely disciplined which has led to a healthier body for him. He needs to share his secrets with others so they too could learn from his mistakes and draw from his strength.

Q:What public attitude about diabetes would you like to change most?
A: The "deadma" attitude of people towards the illness. Millions do not know what it really is. There is also a lack of consideration for diabetics. In the US, when you say you have juvenile diabetes, the Americans immediately show concern. I feel that educating the public about diabetes is imperative to save lives or to make a diabetic's life easier to live. It's bad enough having to take the shots.

Q: How do you help Gary cope with his diabetes?
A: I had to study diabetes. To understand how to help Gary manage his diabetes, I had to buy books on the disease and had to learn about it through research. I also interview doctors whenever I can. A diabetic's family must live with the disease as if they, too, have it, so they eat the same food. They learn to sacrifice so as not to tempt the patient and the diabetic will not suffer from rejection.

Q: What do you tell other people whose loved ones have diabetes? What is the one most important thing to remember about the disease?
A: Learn about the disease and be very patient with the diabetic. Study the human body and how it works. I had to do that. I had to learn about the liver, the kidneys, the pancreas and all. Learn to be patient and love the diabetic and rise above the attacks and the high-sugar tantrums. Think like a doctor but treat the person with respect and not like a patient. With a great balance of medication, diet and exercise and lots of prayer one can battle and be victorious over the disease and minimize complications.

We were supporting a child once who had diabetes when she was nine. She died at 21 because her family could not afford the monitoring and was ignorant of her needs. It was so sad. Education of the family would have saved her life. Someone told me once that diabetes is a traitor disease. At the onset you don't think it's that serious. For years you abuse your body because you really don't feel the complications. But what you sow, you reap. The one important thing for me about the disease is just that. How you manage the disease will spell the outcome of your life.

Q: What would you tell other people who may already have the disease but are too afraid or too stubborn to find out for sure?
A; Love yourself. Before you could love others you must first learn to love yourself. Appreciate life and remember your life is borrowed. One day you will account to the Creator for it. Why settle for 30 years when you could live to be 75 and achieve much more and help more people in the process? If you are a parent, you owe it to your kids to live a healthy life so you do not become a burden to them in the future. When they see the fighting spirit they will learn to fight with and for you. If you have a spouse, have mercy on him or her. Why curtail the joy of family simply because of stubbornness?

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LIVE the SweetLife

by EQUAL SWEETENER

Equal Q&A

If you have been diagnosed with diabetes, the most radical change in your lifestyle will be the drastic reduction of sugar in your diet. What, when, and even where you eat will be greatly affected by your doctor's recommendations and by the availability of diabetic-friendly dishes in restaurants around the city.

But today, because of an incredible discovery made in 1965 by James Schlatter, a sweet but healthier diet is now possible with Equal sweetener.

What exactly is Equal?

Equal is the leading zero-calorie sweetener worldwide. Equal has the same sweet taste of sugar but without the calories.

What is Equal made of?

Equal is made of aspartame, a crystalline, low-calorie non-sugar sweetener that is actually 200 times sweeter than sugar. Aspartame is made of protein components found in many foods that are part of anyone's regular diet. Foods such as milk, meat, vegetables and cereal grains are among them.

How does the body handle Equal?

The aspartame in Equal is metabolized by the body into naturally occurring dietary components such as amino acids - aspartate and phenylalanine. Many foods - milk, meat, vegetables and cereal grains - have these amino acids. The body digests and metabolizes these components just like those found in these common foods.

What can Equal be used for?

Equal can be used as a sweetener for beverages such as coffee, tea or juice. It can also be sprinkled on fresh fruits or on cereal.

Can Equal be used in cooking or baking?

Equal is suitable for use in both cooking and baking but its cooking properties are different, so check out special recipes at **www.equal.com**.

How is Equal beneficial to diabetics?

Equal is particularly beneficial to diabetics who, because of their body's inability to produce or respond correctly to insulin, must severely limit their intake of sugar. Equal does not increase blood sugar levels and is low in calories. Therefore Equal allows diabetics to choose from a much wider variety of foods and beverages.

How well was Equal tested before it was approved for use?

Equal's safety has been proven over and over. Since its discovery in 1965, researchers have conducted over 200 studies on aspartame, and it has been reviewed by regulatory agencies around the world. Prior to its approval in the United States for use in food and beverage products in 1981, Equal was subjected to one of the most comprehensive testing programs ever undertaken for a food ingredient. All studies concluded that consuming aspartame is no different from consuming other foods.

What other regulatory bodies have approved the use of Equal?

- US Food and Drug Administration (US FDA)
- American Dietetic Association
- American Diabetes Association
- Council on Scientific Affairs of the American Medical Association
- World Health Organization
- Bureau of Food and Drug (BFAD)
- European Communities and the Health Protection Branch in Canada

What forms is Equal available in?

Equal is available in tablet 100's and 200's in the trigger pack. It is also available in sachets and in glass jars as Equal Spoonful.

Where can I purchase Equal?

You can purchase Equal at your favorite supermarkets and drugstores.

Rewriting Your Family's Diabetic History

Wouldn't you like to inherit your father's sense of humor instead of his diabetes? Believe it or not, where there's a will, there's a way.

Although genetics do play an important role in determining your likelihood to inherit diabetes, your genes are not your only risk factor. If you know that diabetes runs in your family, you can make simple lifestyle changes to reduce your risk. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Maintain a healthy weight. Obesity or excessive weight is the leading cause of diabetes. Try substituting Equal for sugar and save precious calories every day.**
- **Increase your activity. Lack of exercise increases your risk for diabetes even if you are not overweight.**
- **Eat a high fiber diet. Research shows that eating foods such as whole grains, fruits and vegetables will help reduce your risk.**

Remember, it's never too late! Start investing in your health today. After all, you have the power to change the course of your family history.

DINING OUT

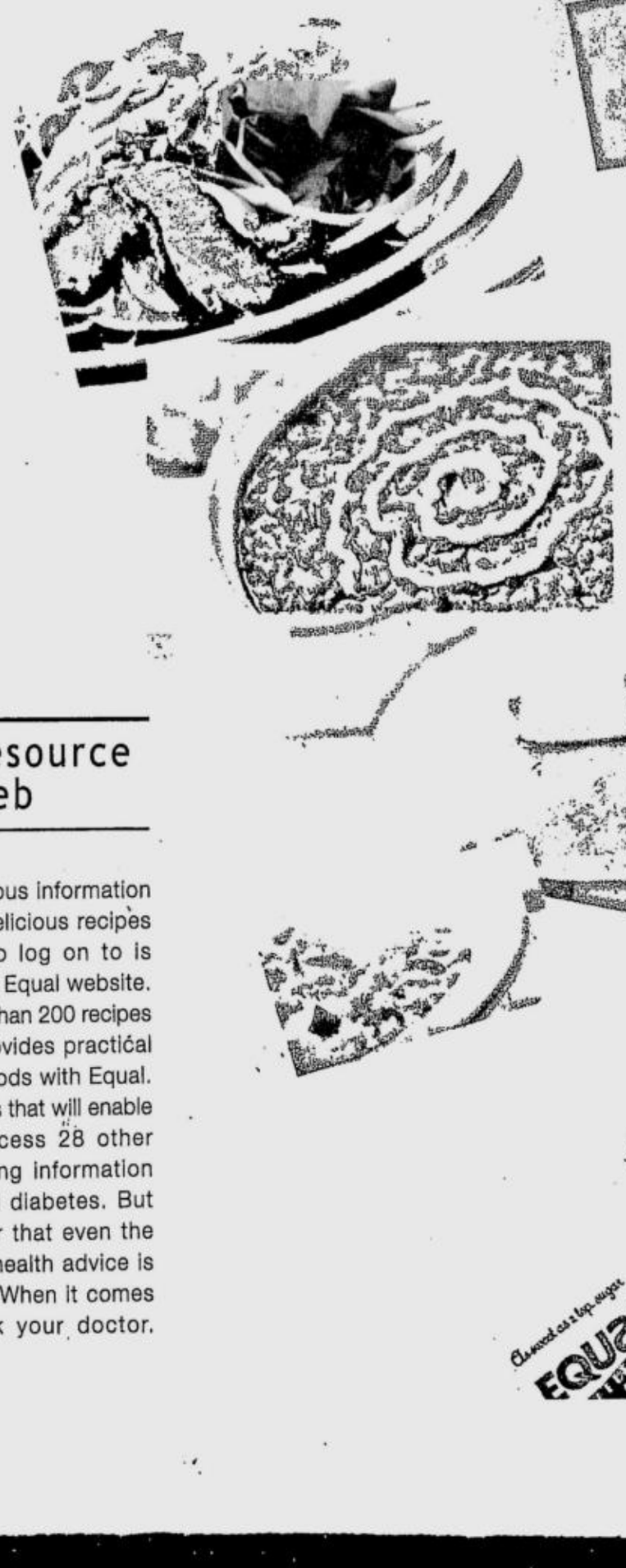
- Try to leave half the food on your plate. Take home the leftovers for another meal.
- Just say "no thank you" to appetizers.
- Split an entree with a friend. You'll both be better off.
- Don't be fooled by healthy-sounding salads. Often, they're so large and are covered with high-calorie dressings and high-fat ingredients.
- Always remember to ask your waiter for Equal. Or better yet, bring your own Equal sachets just to be sure.
- Here are a few of the many establishments that are sure to serve Equal:

Le Cour de France
Africana
Old Manila Coffee House
Vincent's Pub & Restaurant
Via Mare
Outback Steakhouse
Cafe Havana
Bistro Remedios
In The Mood
Cafe Adriatico
Bistro Lorenzo
Au Bon Pain
Figaro
Dome Cafe
Almon Marina
Italianni's
TGI Friday's

Remember that when it comes to portions, less is probably more or at least enough. By eating less, you'll be investing in your long-term health. So get a grip on your portions now and they won't get a hold on you!

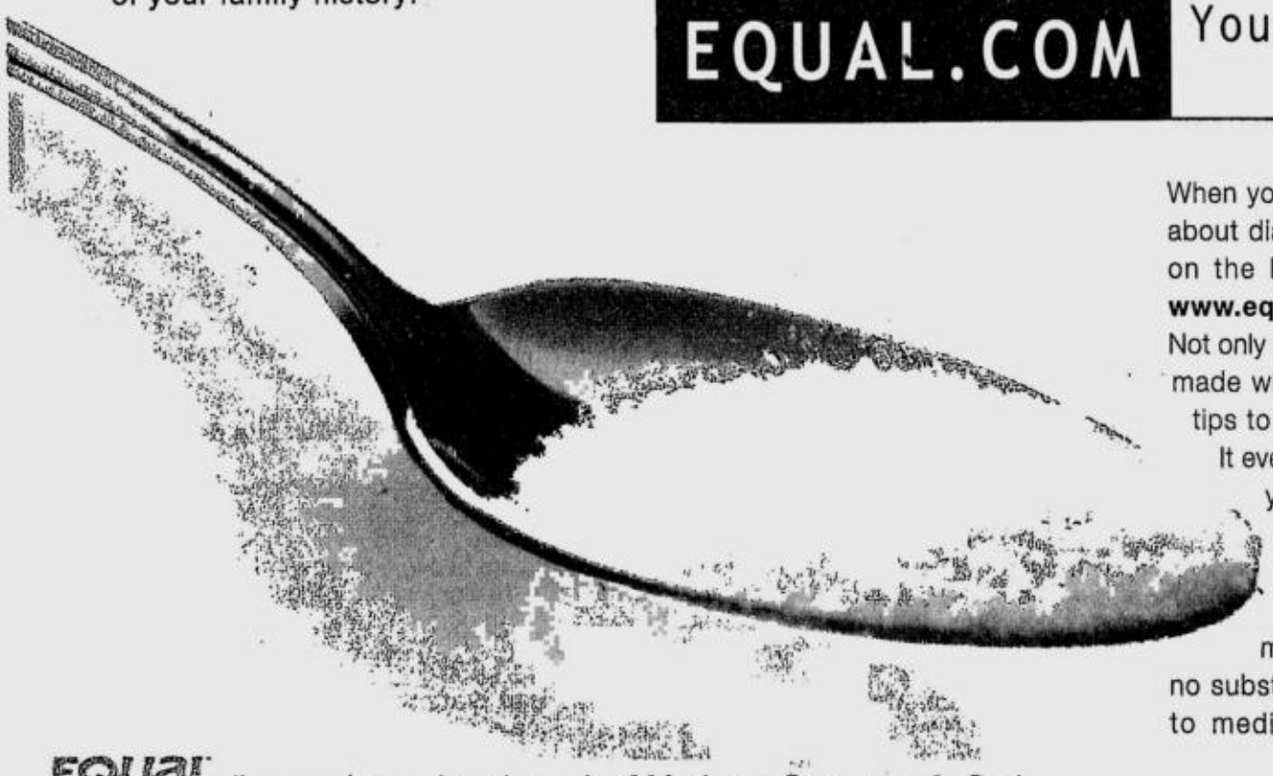
DISHES FOR DIABETICS:

Sweet and Tasty Treats made with Equal Sweetener



EQUAL.COM Your health resource on the web

When you're looking for serious information about diabetes or fun and delicious recipes on the Internet, the site to log on to is **www.equal.com**, the official Equal website. Not only does it feature more than 200 recipes made with Equal, it also provides practical tips to help you prepare foods with Equal. It even offers Internet links that will enable you to instantly access 28 other websites containing information about health and diabetes. But always remember that even the most trusted online health advice is no substitute for an expert. When it comes to medical questions, ask your doctor.



EQUAL is a registered trademark of Merisant Company 2, Sarl.

3X a day if symptoms or craving persist.

the doctor recommended 0 calorie sweetener

Craving for a taste of the sweet life? There's one simple solution: ever you take your coffee, always take it sweetened with Equal. ual gives you all the sweetness of sugar but none of the calories. No wonder so many doctors recommend it for diabetics. Now isn't that sweet?

® Registered trademark of Merisant Company 2, Sarl © 2001 Merisant Company 2, Sarl

7 HABITS OF EQUALLY HEALTHY PEOPLE

Want to wake up feeling refreshed and revitalized? Want to be energized the whole day through? You can have "the perfect day" everyday by developing the seven habits of "Equally Healthy People":

1. Begin each day with a good breakfast. A lot of people feel fatigued because they are not eating early enough. Breakfast restores blood sugars lost during sleep and helps speed your metabolism until lunch. Start the day with energizing oatmeal sprinkled with Equal sweetener.

2. Variety is the key. A good diet is the cornerstone of a vibrant lifestyle. For maximum health, eat plenty of breads, cereals and pastas in addition to a variety of fruits and vegetables. And, of course, limit consumption of fats and sugars.

3. Eat frequent, lighter meals. A number of health benefits, including weight control, have been established for this eating style. Keep in mind variety, balance and moderation.

4. Exercise three to four times a week. Start with 10 minutes each day and build to 20 minutes. And you don't just have to bike, walk, swim, or jog to improve your health. Daily household chores and other activities count, too. Always be sure to consult with your health care professional before you start any exercise program.

5. Establish a support network. We all need someone we can lean on. Whether it's talking to a friend when you have a problem or getting a ride when your car won't start, having a list of friends you can count on helps you feel happier and healthier.

6. Reward yourself daily. Make a personal "refresher list" of your favorite activities, such as indulging in a bubble bath or sipping a hot cup of tea with Equal. Then do them! Recharging your batteries on a daily basis can give you greater mental clarity and make you more productive as well!

7. End the day with a good night's sleep. Sleep is the fountain of youth. Most of us need at least eight hours every night to feel alert and energized the next day.

What habits not listed here have worked well for you? Add on to the list above and share it with everyone you know. That way you can all stay healthy good friends for years to come!

KEEP LIFE SWEET.
EXERCISE.

Here are some fast, easy-to-prepare goodies using Equal sweetener. Get your aprons ready...

- ***Whipped cream or dip?*** Whip ricotta cheese, Equal Spoonful and vanilla for a delicious alternative to whipped cream. Serve with scones, desserts and as a dip for fresh fruit.
- ***Delicious marinade.*** Make a delicious marinade or glaze for fish, chicken or meat with soy sauce, shallots or your favorite herbs, orange juice and Equal Spoonful.
- ***Sweet nibbles.*** For a low-fat alternative to puff pastry, mix equal quantities of Equal Spoonful and cocoa or cinnamon and sprinkle between every 2-3 layers of filo pastry brushed lightly with oil. Cut to desired size and wrap around fruit before baking. Or just cut into fingers and bake until golden for a sweet nibble with coffee or dessert toppings.
- ***Fruit yogurt.*** Make your own fruit yogurt by mixing low-fat plain yogurt with your favorite fruits and Equal Spoonful. Combine with dissolved gelatin and beaten egg whites to make a delicious, fluffy mold for desserts.
- ***Tomato sauce.*** Make a rich tomato sauce for pasta by sautéing onion, garlic and a little olive oil. Add tinned tomatoes, tomato paste, basil and Equal Spoonful and cook until thick and sweet.
- ***Cake toppings.*** Ice cakes with a glaze made of low-fat cream cheese, Equal Spoonful and passion fruit or lemon.
- ***Smoothie.*** Treat yourself with a chocolate smoothie with skim milk, Equal Spoonful, cocoa powder, a frozen banana and crushed ice.
- ***Champorado & oatmeal.*** Sweeten your favorite breakfast and afternoon snack with Equal Spoonful.

Walk your way to greater health and well being.

Walking is such an enjoyable activity that we tend to forget it's also one of the most beneficial cardiovascular workouts. It can help you stay fit. It can strengthen your heart and improve your lung capacity. It can also lower your blood pressure, relieve stress -- even boost your mood.

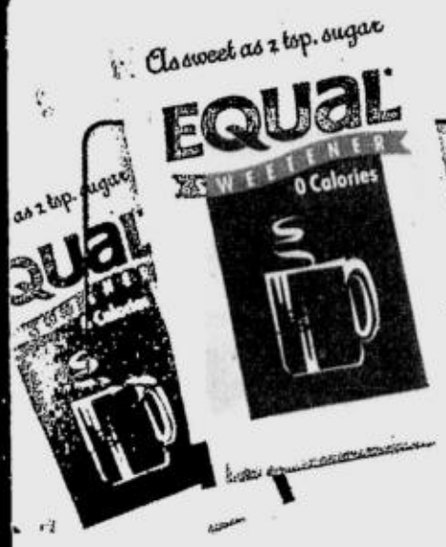
Start with 10 minutes each day and build as your energy increases. These quick tips will put an extra spring in your step.

- Stretch for 5-10 minutes before and after every walk.
- Keep a good full posture throughout your walk. Gaze forward, not down at the ground, with your chin level and head up.
- Resist the urge to increase your speed by lengthening your stride. Your stride automatically lengthens as you gain momentum, so let it come naturally to prevent hamstring pulls.
- Stay hydrated by drinking 8 ounces of water before you begin your walk and every 20-30 minutes during it.
- Wear shoes designed for walking for greater comfort and injury prevention. Some of the features to look for include a flexible forefoot, beveled heel and flexible upper without extra layers.
- If it's a windy day, walk against the wind when you start and with the wind when you return. You'll stay warmer and have more energy when you need it most -- on your way back.
- Wear bright, reflective clothing if walking at night. Not only will it help drivers see you, but also runners, bikers, and roller bladers.
- Walk with a friend or take along your dog. You're more apt to exercise when you have good companionship.
- Vary the length and distance of your walks every few weeks to breathe new life into an old routine.

Your walks don't have to be long and strenuous to be beneficial. A walk to the store or through the mall counts, too. Always be sure to consult with your health care professional before starting any exercise program.

Calorie Conversion Chart

	CALORIES	CONVERSION
Sugar	32cal	2 tsps.
Equal Sachet	4cal	1 sachet
Equal Tablets	0cal	1 tablet
Equal Spoonful	2cal	1 tsp.



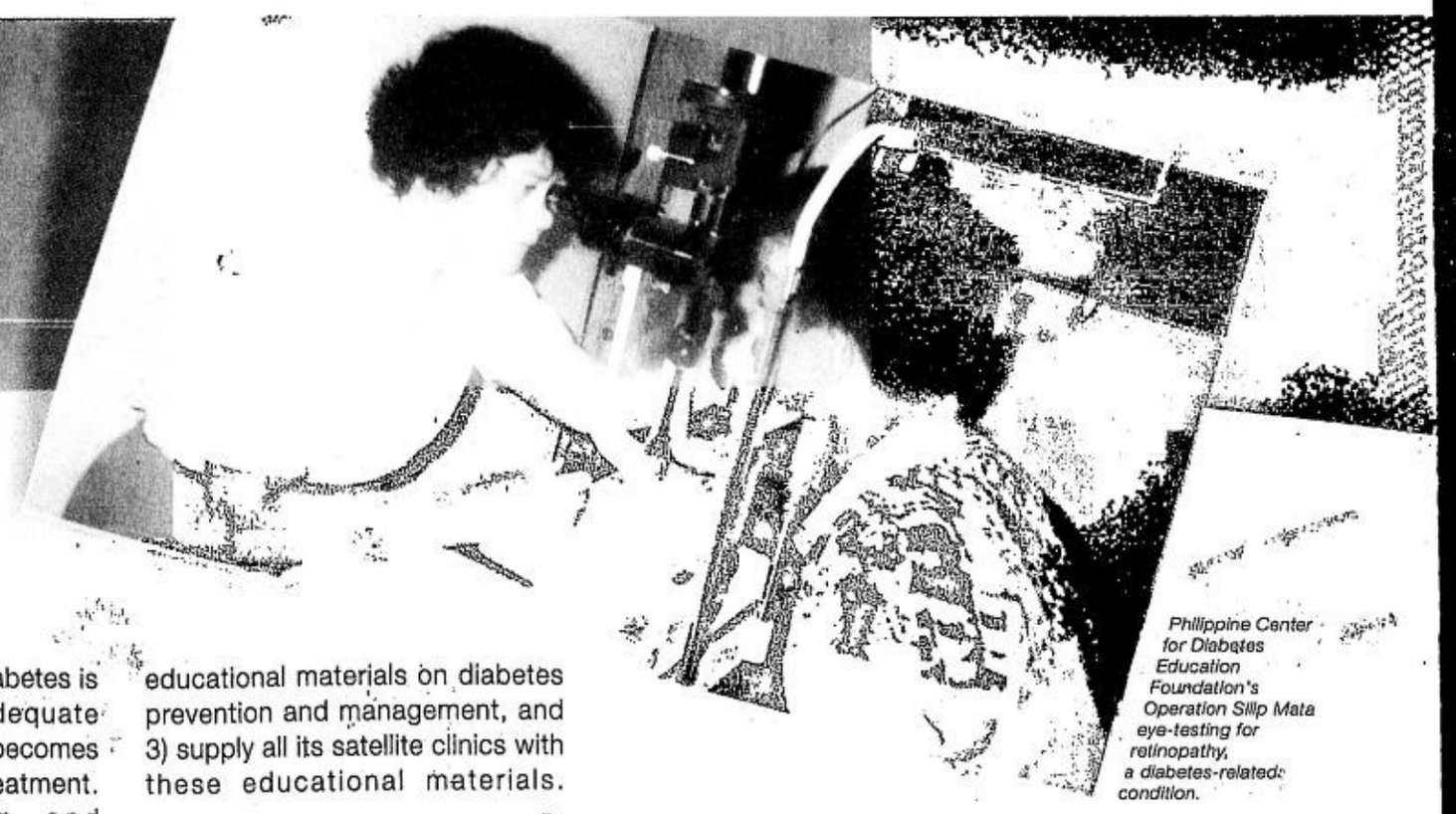
sweet scoops

A sachet of Equal used to sweeteh coffee or lemonade instead of 2 tsp. of sugar saves you 28 calories. If you drink 2 cups or glasses a day, that's 20,440 calories saved per year, or about 6 lbs. of body weight.

"Let your food be your medicine and let your medicine be your food."
-- Hippocrates

Diabetes Center:

Education loosens grip of diabetes on society



Philippine Center for Diabetes Education Foundation's Operation Silip Mata eye-testing for retinopathy, a diabetes-related condition.

With the primary goal of providing the proper diabetes education, the Diabetes Center was established by the Philippine Center for Diabetes Education Foundation, Inc. (PCDEF)

Knowing that the main reason for the sharp increase of diabetes cases is the lack of knowledge of the vast majority of the Filipino population—the people behind the Diabetes Center are directly taking on the very root of the diabetes problem.

The Diabetes Center is the answer to the growing need of properly educating Filipinos, including diabetics themselves.

Education is vital, since diabetes is a complex disease. Adequate knowledge of the disease becomes an essential part of its treatment. Likewise, education and understanding are the keys to surviving and leading a normal life with this disease. A diabetic who knows more about his disease lives the longest, improves his quality of life, and has a direct hand in the treatment of his disease, thus decreasing its management cost.

The Center is envisioned to 1) train trainors who will man the satellite educational clinics of the Foundation; 2) create and develop educational materials on diabetes prevention and management, and 3) supply all its satellite clinics with these educational materials.

PCDEF's Diabetes Center offers patients its facilities to educate them on the proper diet, correct exercise, continuous medications, proper care of the body, correct usage of blood tests, and daily record keeping. It is open for all diabetics, regardless of the doctor they consult. Individual or group instruction for an entire course, or part of it, may be availed.

After two and a half years of existence, the Center has been observed as effective in educating patients. Doctors witnessed such tangible results after their patients attend the Center's sessions:

- Knowledge of diabetes increased considerably
- Skills such as the use of monitoring devices, correct injection techniques, and care of the feet, skin and teeth, were improved, and
- Metabolic control improved.

The officers of the Foundation are behind the Diabetes Center, and are dedicated to achieve the Center's vision. These officers include former First Lady Amelita M. Ramos as chairperson; Rosie Lovely T. Romulo, vice-chairperson; Augusto D. Litonjua, president; Alice Li Reyes, vice president for external affairs; Rolland R. Thompson, vice president for internal affairs; and Remedios C. Fournier, treasurer. Its board of trustees also includes Octavio V. Espiritu, Raul G. Fores, Menardo R. Jimenez, Rene C. Lao, Enrique D. Perez, Tommy S. Ty Willing, and Angeli P. Valenciano. Susan B. Trinidad is the center's executive officer-in-charge and consultant. The Medical Bureau has Mary Anne Lim-Abraham and Lina Lantion-Ang as coordinators for training programs; Roberto C. Mirasol and Elizabeth Paz-Pacheco for Camp Cope; Josephine Carlos-Raboca and Cynthia Halili-Mangubat for Diabetes Awareness Week; Tommy S. Ty Willing and Rosa Allyn G. Sy for special programs; with Laura Trajano-Acampado, Thelma Dimalanta-Crisostomo, Susan Yu-Gan, Ruby T. Go, Honolina Sero-Gomez and Cynthia Chua-Ho as members.

Type II Diabetes: It is all in the lifestyle

In this day and age where life has picked-up a lot of speed and a lot of people have suddenly become sedentary and yet are exposed to more stress, a modern-day disease has suddenly begun ravaging a number of Filipinos. Afflicting 98% of Filipino diabetes patients, Type II diabetes occurs in older people in general but not exclusively. **Dr. Augusto D. Litonjua of the Philippine Center for Diabetes Education Foundation (PCDEF)** speaks of the disease.

Q: How have you helped improve the condition of diabetes care in the country?

ADL: Before we started, there was very little awareness of the disease. If any, it was wrongly perceived. People were of the perception that diabetes was simply an elevation of the blood sugar. What they were unaware of was that this elevation, if left unchecked, could lead to several more serious consequences such as blindness, kidney failure, and heart disease in those who have diabetes. This is the message we have been repeating over and over with the Diabetes Awareness Week. So now we feel more people are knowledgeable about what diabetes is and they now come to realize that it is not just an elevation in the blood sugar.

Q: What would the common Filipino candidate for diabetes be like?

ADL: This is the universal picture of an individual who may develop diabetes, it's not just Filipino — it is one who has become lazy. And one who has changed his Filipino diet to a more western diet. If you look at the Philippine rural areas where there are still few diabetics, their diet consists of mostly complex carbohydrates and very little fat as compared with the western diet which is the reverse — more fat. You also have your fast food centers serving French fries and burgers — all fatty. So that is the change in our lifestyle. They have also become lazy with all the conveniences of modern life. They don't climb the stairs — they take the elevator. They don't go to the supermarket by walking — they take their cars.

Q: What is the most common type of diabetes and do you see a lot of these cases in the Philippines?

ADL: Type II is the most common. 98% of the diabetes we see are type two. So the type of diabetes we have is a disease of lifestyle. That means a change in the diet to fatty food and physical inactivity. To prevent it and to aid in the successful management of the disease, you have to be more active and you have to cut down on fats.

Q: What is the primary advice you give to your diabetic patients?

ADL: The first step is to give the correct diet and the physical activity regimen. And if you follow the stage management of diabetes, you don't give medicines initially. Just diet and exercise. But unfortunately, very few patients can comply with this for a very long time so eventually you have to prescribe medication.

Q: Would you want to send a message out to your colleagues in the medical community?

ADL: They should keep on learning about diabetes because there are new things that crop up almost every month that changes the way we treat our patients. The Diabetes Center is there to help them on this. The center is there to educate and not to treat patients so we don't take away patients from other doctors. If we educate patients we return them back to their doctors.

Q: What is your message for this year's Diabetes Week?

ADL: We have been saying that diabetes is not a disease to be toyed with. It should be viewed with serious concern because if left untreated then there may be serious consequences. The glimmer of hope here is that if you treat a diabetic really well, he will live as long as a person without diabetes, and probably with a better quality of life because he takes care of himself better than one without diabetes who lives recklessly.

DIABETES PROFILE: Giving a Face to the Enemy

We cannot win the war against diabetes if we do not know the enemy. In order to overcome diabetes it must be given a face. Get to know about diabetes to avoid being one of the millions who are unaware that they are already being ravaged by the disease.

Diabetes mellitus is a disease of the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas, and of insulin itself. This leads to elevations of the blood sugar and the appearance of sugar in the urine. If left uncontrolled, diabetes can lead to blindness, kidney failure, and gangrene of the extremities. People with diabetes are more prone to develop high blood pressure, heart disease, and stroke.

There are two kinds of diabetes. The first, Type 1 diabetes or the "juvenile-onset diabetes" since it is typically seen in younger people, is when the body makes no insulin. The second, Type 2 diabetes is more prevalent. This is more commonly referred to as the "adult-onset diabetes" and involves insulin resistance. You may be making insulin, but your body is not using it properly. Adult-onset diabetes comes on gradually, making it difficult to detect.

Diabetics and their families speak on diabetes

You feel deprived, you see your companions eating whatever they like and all they want. It is better to eat alone.
Ronaldo, 39, store manager / diabetic

He constantly reads the labels on the food we buy. He has to be conscious of this. He has to see the carbo and caloric contents of the food we buy. Instead of using sugar, on his coffee for example, he uses a low-calorie sweetener like Equal.
Lorna, secretary / wife of a diabetic

Kanin ko, isang takal na lang, 1 cup of rice per meal and then exercise. I used to eat half a container of leche flan. There is a lot of food in the refrigerator but if I know that the food has a high sugar content I refrain. I don't want my blood sugar to rise. I don't want my diabetes to get to the point where I have to take insulin regularly.
Marito, 55, auto mechanic / diabetic

The whole family has adjusted to it already. My dad loves to eat; my family loves food so much, so we had to make it easier for him. It is so hard to see your family eating the same things as before. He would feel deprived. We did not want to make him feel that way. So we had to make healthy changes to the family's diet.
Lara, copywriter / daughter of a diabetic

One is predisposed to diabetes mellitus. An individual predisposed to the illness is someone who may have close relatives who are diabetics or who have a cell type which renders him very susceptible to the disease. However, many predisposed individuals may ward off the appearance of the disease with healthy living — eating properly and exercising regularly.

It is important for you to know if you have diabetes. If you are over 40, get yourself tested at least once a year. If you are experiencing excessive urination at night, excessive thirst, blurred vision and excessive fatigue, there is no time to waste. Get yourself tested. Have your urine or blood tested at the nearest hospital. If left unchecked, your body may be ravaged by diabetes without your knowledge.

Despite these ominous facts, many diabetic patients can overcome diabetes and live with this dreaded disease and lead full and meaningful lives. In order to manage the disease they must learn all about diabetes and receive the proper diabetes education. Face the enemy. Get to know it better, call the **Philippine Center for Diabetes Education Foundation, Inc. at 893-6070 or 815-9911, loc 7136 or visit them at Room 366, Makati Medical Center, Amorsolo St., Makati City.**

An individual predisposed to the illness is someone who may have close relatives who are diabetics

JEANNE Young

Beware the evil

(From page C1)

At the cinema, despite talking myself into denial, it became increasingly clear that "they" had done this before. And that they were closing in.

What added to this disturbingly studied harassment in a very public place was that, while I was on my way out of the building in steady haste, I overheard a young man with an urgent need politely reporting a snatching incident to the guard. My heart bled for both of them.

Further, while waiting at the taxi stand, hoping to escape the area quickly, I listened to the usual grumblings of at least 20 people frustrated by taxi drivers who wouldn't take them (a *balik-bayan* couple asked me, "Why are we standing in line anyway?" Good question). Then someone at the corner began to scream her head off.

It appeared that she was claiming to be falsely accused of a petty crime by a young lady in a black top who had her head buried into the chest and arms of her tall male companion, who was doing his quiet best not to aggravate the situation by calming her—the real victim—down.

Before my eyes, "Edsa III, Part 2," played to the hilt: Surreal.

Too much high drama for me on an innocent Friday night out.

So, what am I supposed to do now? Snarl at predators disguised as friendly fans? Lock myself in and get fat? Migrate? I've since changed hair color from a fabulous fake blond to an inconspicuous red brown. But who am I kidding?

I'm very blessed to have a loving, supportive, prayerful family and great friends in and out of the church who'll help me heal.

For extra measure, I saw a top psychiatrist this morning and read her my draft. She encouraged me to send you this letter as a start to catharsis. She assured me there were no loose screws. Everyone should be so fortunate.

I have God and our Blessed Mother to thank for getting me out of there in record time. Funny, at that First Friday Mass, we remembered the feast day of St. Maria Goretti who was raped and managed to forgive the rapist.

It must've been her and my guardian angel who provided the taxi when I had left the line to cross the street. The cab mysteriously pulled up from behind me. At last, a peaceful face. Even though he wanted P80 up front.

I readily understand the sentiments of a segment of your readers who mean well. Perhaps they have never been victimized. Perhaps they have unwittingly chosen the path of least resistance. Maybe they have worked themselves into pretending that crime and the results of criminal acts aren't that serious. Or, maybe, they have been programmed to think that criminal elements will disappear by wishing them away.

But ask **Teresita Ang See** and company. Ask me. Ask anyone coping with posttraumatic syndrome.

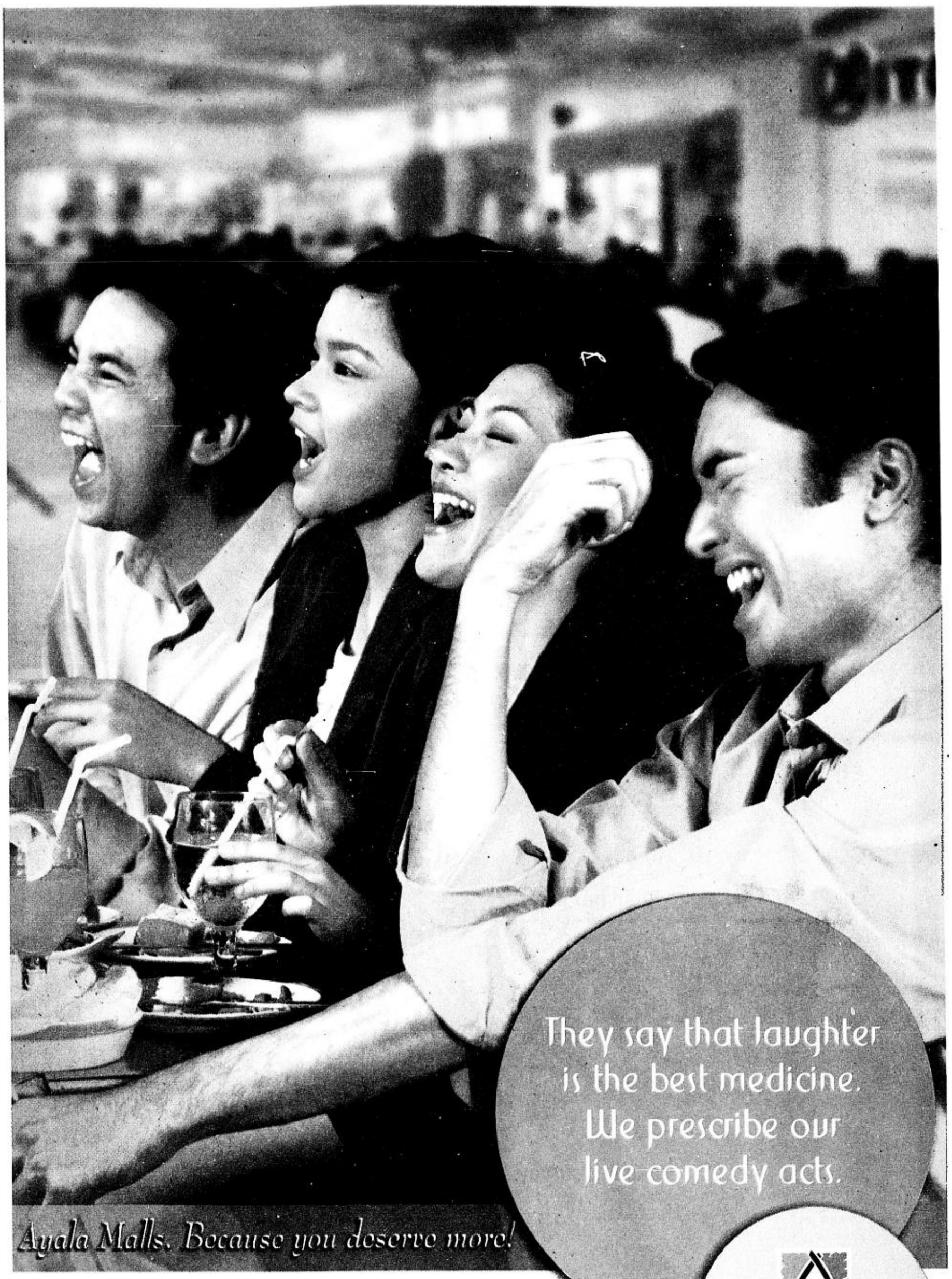
Or ask that pitiful British national who will have to, for the rest of his life—with the help of God's grace and a committed support system, unless he resists—transcend the visible and invisible scars of his ordeal in our beloved islands.

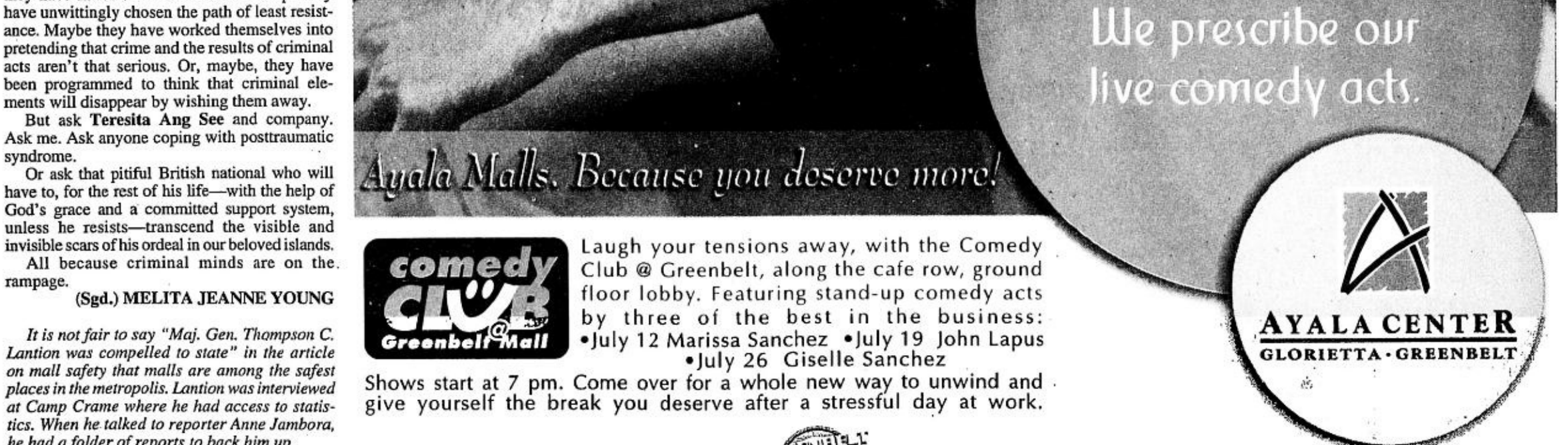
All because criminal minds are on the rampage.

(Sgd.) MELITA JEANNE YOUNG

It is not fair to say "Maj. Gen. Thompson C. Lantion was compelled to state" in the article on mall safety that malls are among the safest places in the metropolis. Lantion was interviewed at Camp Crame where he had access to statistics. When he talked to reporter Anne Jambora, he had a folder of reports to back him up.

*The article on mall safety was prompted by e-mail and text messages about crimes supposedly occurring at the most reputable shopping malls. For sure, we didn't compel him to lie only to make the public feel secure.—**Ed.***





For anyone who's ever been set up, stood up or felt up.

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ask her advice,

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1. Tune-in to Metro Manila radio stations 89.9 DWTM, 105.1 Crossover, NU 107.5 and wait for the DJ to ask the question: "What is Bridget Jones's Diary entry for the day?"
2. To get the answer, key-in : BJDIARY and send it to 2324. You should then receive the latest diary entry from Bridget Jones's Mobile via Text Message.
   Example of diary entry:
   9st 3l Have gained weight overnight! How?? Have checked pillows and all are present. No sign that have I been inadvertently consuming soft furnishings in sleep.
3. Call the radio station and read the diary entry/text message.
4. Radio DJ shall verify if message is indeed the one from Bridget Jones's Mobile. If correct, you'll win two (2) tickets for the premiere of Bridget Jones's Diary on August 4, 2001; Glorietta 4, Cinema 6 at 7:30 PM.
5. Winners of Bridget Jones premiere tickets can claim their prize at the participating radio stations starting July 27. Please bring a valid ID and your Globe Handyphone for verification. The station will check both the valid ID and see if the subscribers are indeed Globe subscribers by checking their number (which should start with 0917 or 0916).
6. Log on to www.myglobe.com.ph starting July 25 for more details.

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JUST MARRIED. Patrick Go and Ingrid Chua

GO-CHUA
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TEXT BY B. CARLO TADIAR
PHOTOS BY WILLIE AVILA

LAST December, at the height of the impeachment trial, the family of George Go, then chair of Equitable-PCI Bank, trooped to the high-rise home of the singular Dr. Eleuterio "Teyet" Pascual. Dr. Pascual is, of course, the famed collector of Philippine art and antiquities, one of Manila society's most colorful personalities. His extraordinary collec-

FANTASY/p.D4

MOORSEL-RELOS

Margarite V. Relos, daughter of **Pedro** and **Cesaria Relos**, will exchange marriage vows with **Vincent Gabriel van Moorsel**, son of **Rudolf** and **Thea van Moorsel**, on Aug. 5 at the San Agustin Church. Reception will be held at the Makati Shangri-La.

The bride will wear a spaghetti-strapped gown made of ivory shantung silk, embellished with Swarovski crystals, amethysts and rhinestones of different sizes, designed by **Rollie H. Graza** of Palay Pagdaitan.

GONZALEZ-LAVARIÑO

Pura A. Lavariño will wed **Sotero "Rocky" Gonzalez** on July 28 at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, New Manila,QC.

The couple, both New York residents, will return to the United States after the wedding.

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

DE GUZMAN DEBUT

Hiyasmin Mithi Laya S. de Guzman, daughter of Ateneo professor and National Anti-Poverty Commission member **Arnel F. de Guzman** and NGO worker **Joy Sison de Guzman**, will celebrate her 18th birthday on Aug. 10. Hiyas, or Mitchie, is a fine arts sophomore at the University of the Philippines. A dinner-dance will be held to mark the occasion at Albergus, Capitol Hills Road, Old Balara, Diliman, QC. Highlight of the affair is the traditional 18 roses, 18 candles and 18 symbolic gifts ceremony.

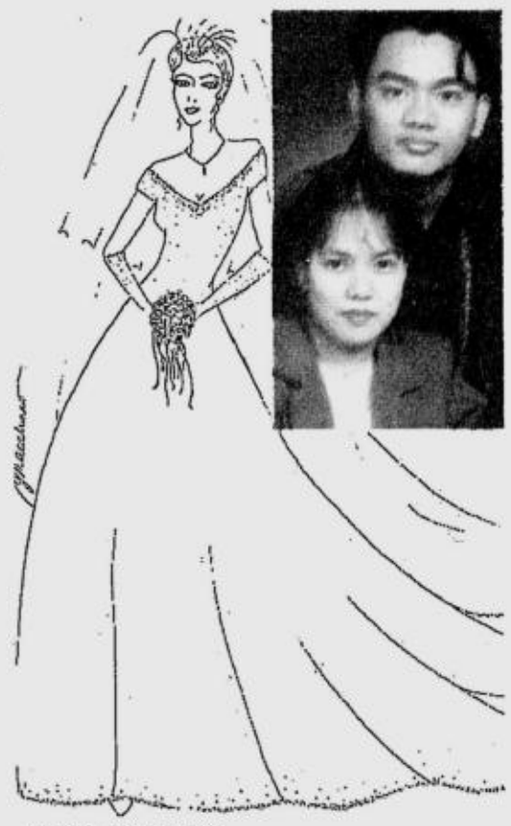
IGARASHI DEBUT

Caress Marie Ofrecio Igarashi celebrated her 18th birthday on July 14 with a dinner-dance at the family residence at 458 Diamond Ave., Greenheights Subdivision, San Bartolome, Novaliches, QC. She is the daughter of **Toshiyuki** and **Lydia Ofrecio Igarashi**. She was escorted by **James Patrick Valencia**.

ABEAR-LANTICAN

Mao L. Abear, son of **Antonio** and **Lizabeth Abear**, exchanged vows with **Debbie T. Lantican**, daughter of **Fernando** and **Rita Mary Ann Lantican**, on July 14 at St. Michael Church, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City. Reception followed at the Luna Hall, Army Clubhouse, Fort Bonifacio.

The bride wore a fully beaded gown of shantung silk on Swiss lace designed by Rollie H. Graza of Balay Pagdaitan. The gowns of the entourage were also designed by Balay Pagdaitan. The bride's sisters, Dr. **Paulette** and **Faye Valerie T. Lantican**, coordinated the wedding.

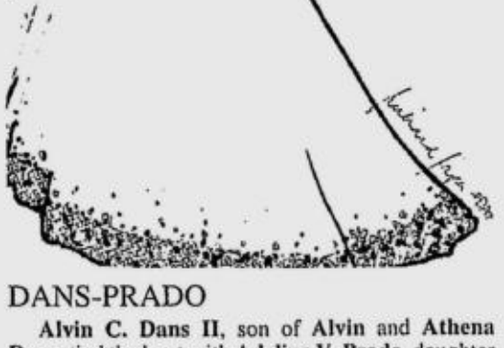


ALPE-SONAJO

Auren E. Alpe, son of **Ronaldo** and **Nenita . 'pe**, will marry **Winnie P. Sonajo**, daughter of **Eduardo** and **Celia Sonajo**, on Sept. 1 at the St. John Bosco Parish, Makati City. Officiating priest will be Fr. **Armand Robleza**, SDB. The bride's gown will be designed by **Rica Macalinao**.

DANS-PRADO

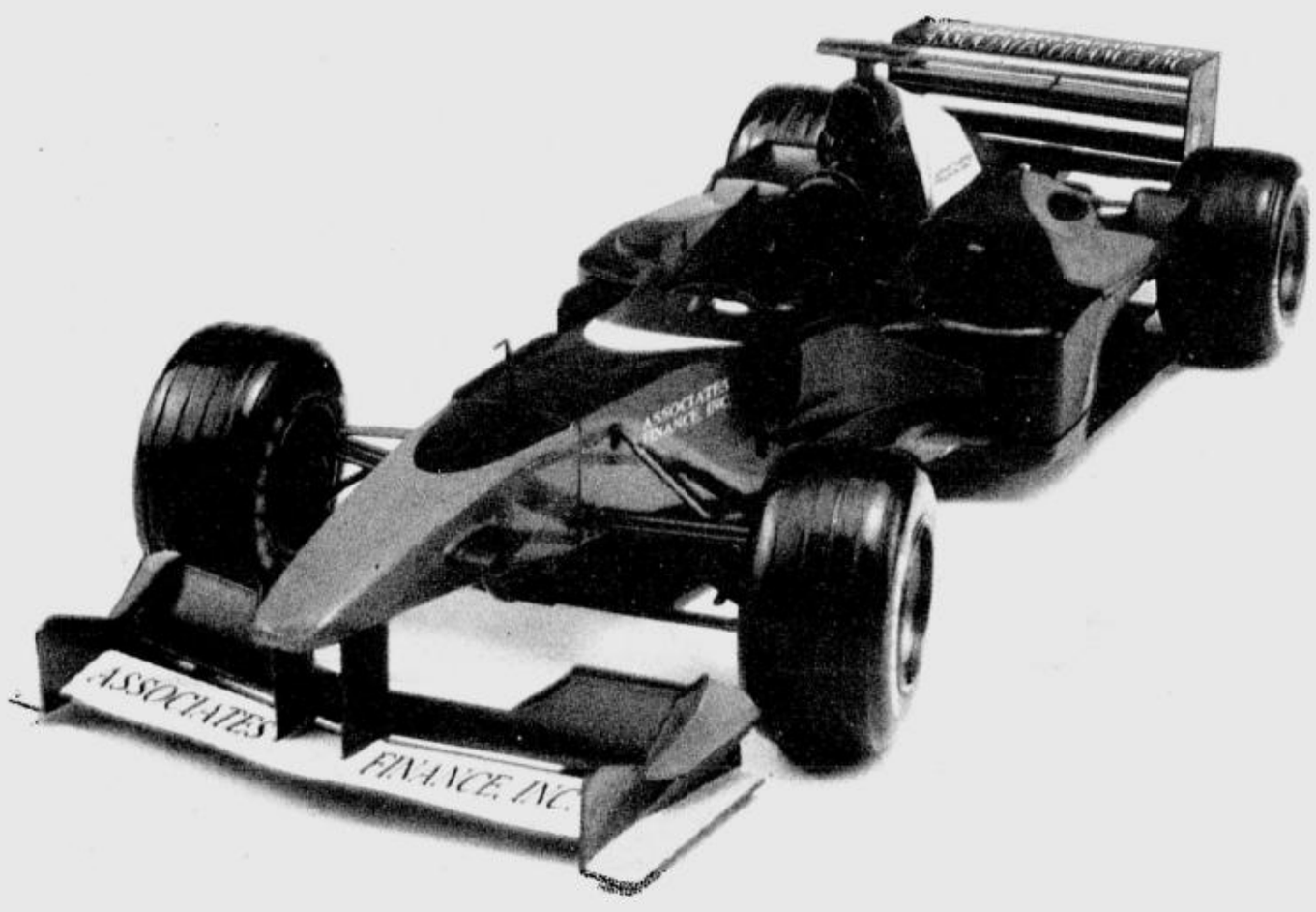
Alvin C. Dans II, son of **Alvin** and **Athena Dans**, tied the knot with **Adeline V. Prado**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Jess Prado**, on June 30 at the Ellenwood Malate Church. Reception followed at the Holiday Inn Manila. The bride wore a French ivory satin gown by **Richard Papa**. The bodice was beaded with seed pearls, glass beads and Swarovski crystal, with head-to-toe veil edged in crystal embroidery. The entourage wore gowns in lilac also designed and executed by Papa.



DE LA ROSA-TORRES

Leo Carlo M. de la Rosa, son of **Masosing Mahong vda. de de la Rosa**, married **Helen J. Torres**, daughter of **Daisy Jaban vda. de Torres**, on April 28 at the Notre Dame Hospital Chapel, Cotabato City. Fr. **Eliseo "Jun" Mercado**, OMI, officiated at the Mass. Reception followed at the Las Hermanas, Sinsuat Avenue, Cotabato City.

The bride's gown was designed by Bernie's Creation, Banilad, Cebu City.



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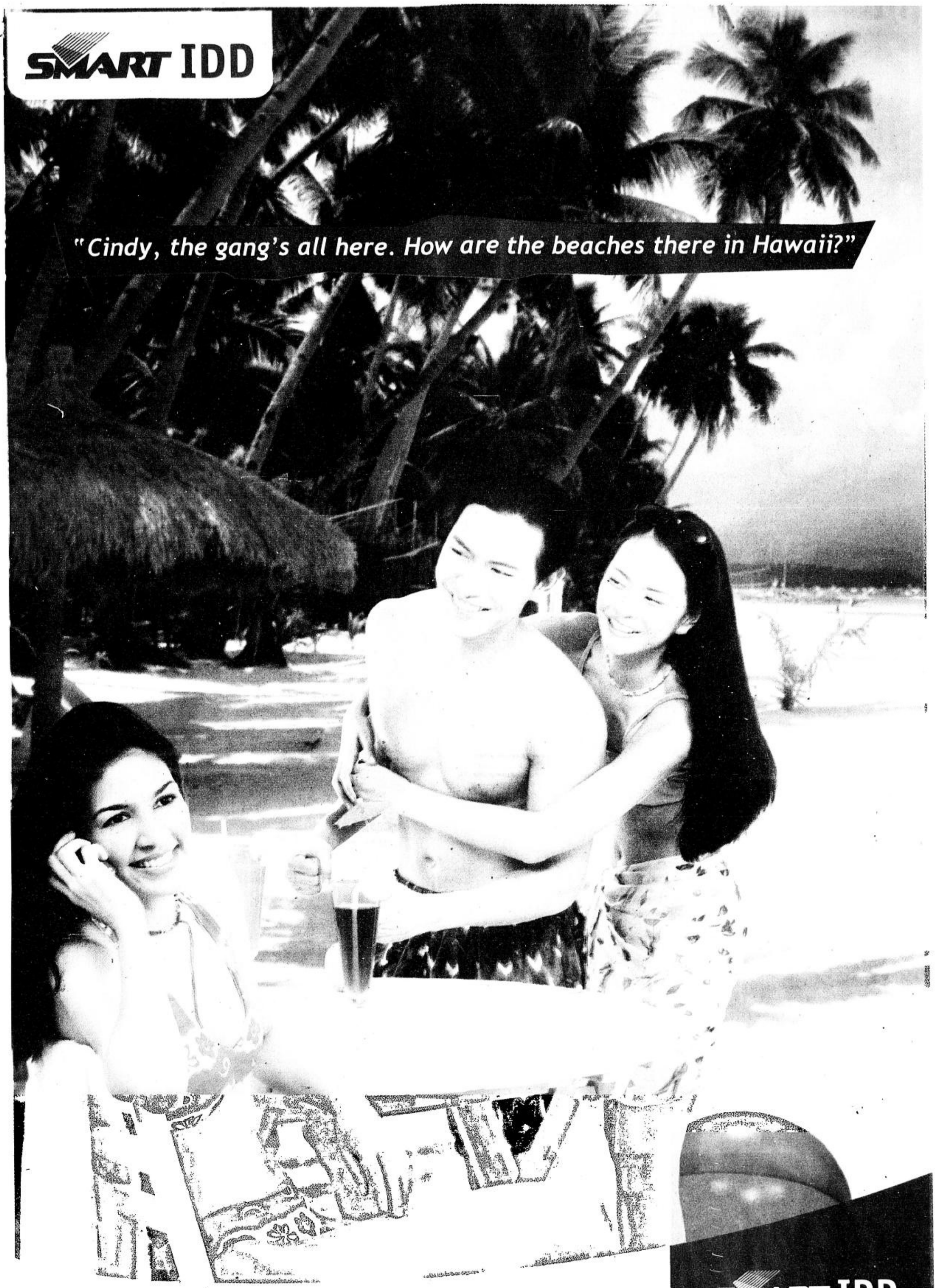

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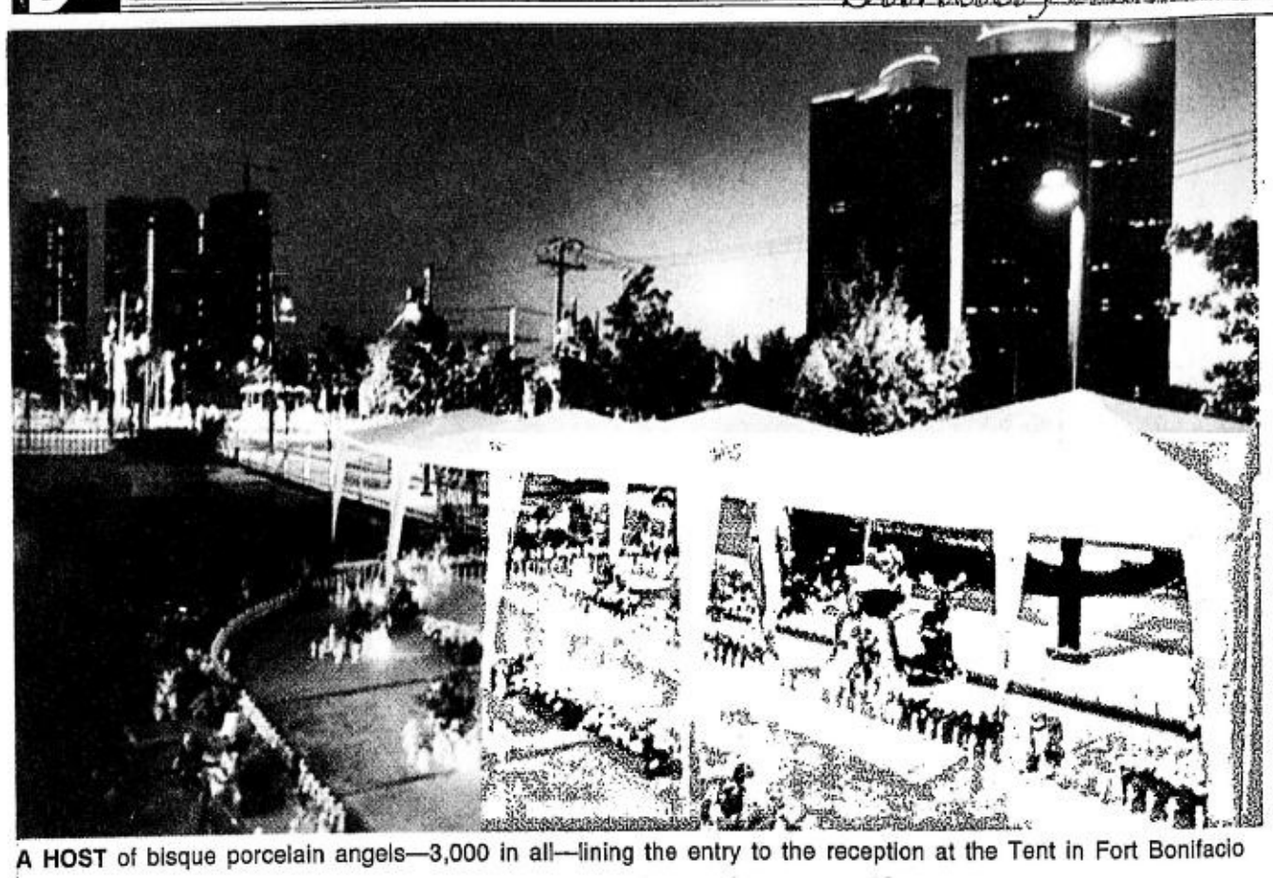
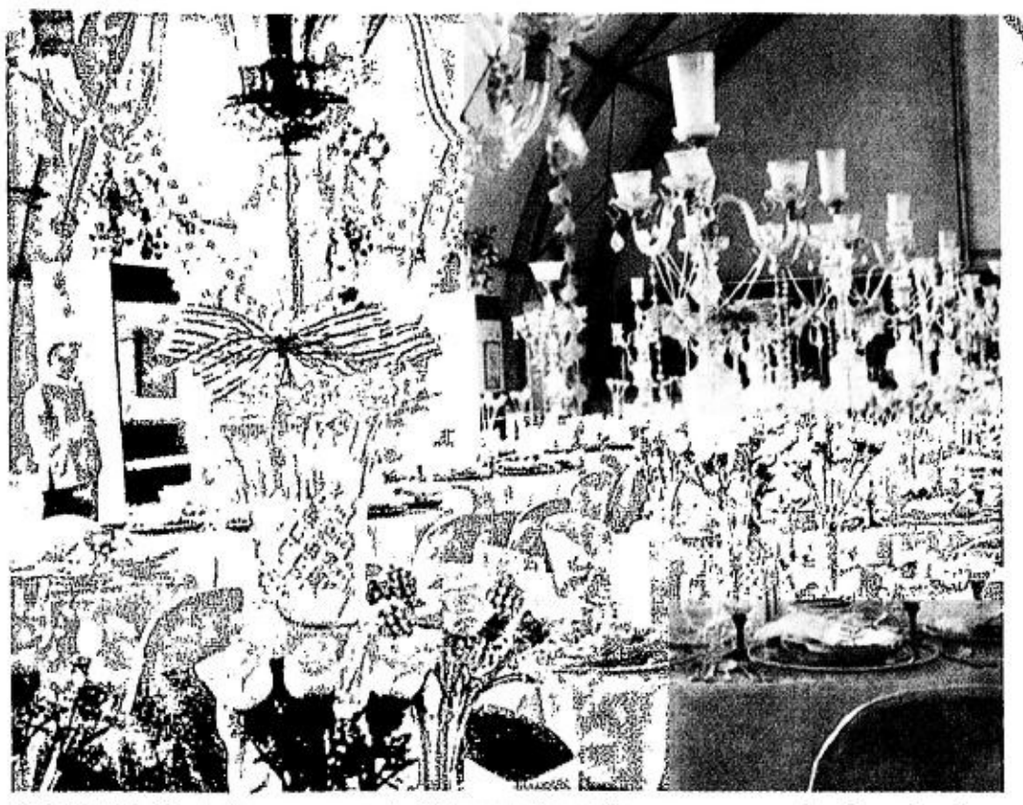


A HOST of bisque porcelain angels—3,000 in all—lining the entry to the reception at the Tent in Fort Bonifacio



IN PLACE of fresh flowers on each table were jewel flowers, some made of semiprecious cat's eye attached to glass orbs and others made of crystal tulips. Each flower was dottted with Swarovski crystals.

Fantasy and perfection, all for love

(From page D1)

tion, shaped over the decades by an eccentric, voluptuous and audacious taste, has achieved the status of urban legend.

George and Rosie Go made their way to Dr. Pascual's, in what was sure to have been a troubled time for them, to enlist his help for the wedding of their only child Patrick to Ingrid Chua, only daughter of another highly placed Filipino-Chinese couple, Benjamin and Pacita Chua. Her father is a director of Metrobank (sometimes referred to as the Central Bank of the Philippine Chinese community) and chair of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

It is difficult to imagine a more contrasting meeting. The Chinese-Filipino banker's family and the flamboyant aesthete.

Universe

Pascual's abode is a universe unto itself, and it houses only a fraction of his collection. The place is chock-full of antique French giltwood furniture, from Louis XIV to Empire. Ceilings and walls are swathed in a patchwork of antique silk brocade, over which are mounted gilt-framed masterpieces of Philippine art (even on the ceiling). Where there is no room for a picture, there is always room for something else, like a row of antique Japanese lacquered boxes or antique tassels. Some of the frames, though already carved, are further embellished with pearls or discs of mother-of-pearl. The matting for a series of 19th-century prints of Manila are cutout floral prints. The potent admixture and the infinitesimal flourishes are trademarks of the collector, who takes such joy in his collection that he is constantly at play with it. Despite the venerability of these objects, nothing is sacrosanct. Everything is toyed with.

On several occasions in the past, Pascual has lent parts of his collection and, even more valuable, his taste, to the creation of settings for banquets of the grandest scale. The Gos had come precisely to enlist his taste for a most important day for their beloved son.

The bride, who normally should handle such things, was busy with the stellar guest list. She also wanted to give Pascual a completely free hand, having seen the wonders he was capable of in previous parties of the Gos. Before Ingrid was engaged to Patrick, she was a producer for news programs of the highly rated Hong Kong-based cable channel Star TV. She was driven; she had left her privileged life in Manila to strike it out on her own against her father's adamant wishes.

Best of friends

Patrick and Ingrid started out as the best of friends, through all the failed attempts at relationships with others. Until they realized they were meant for each other. "How come *we* never 'went out'?" he once asked her. The question became moot on a cold night in San Francisco where they happened to be at the same time simply by coincidence. Somehow, they just "gelled" that evening, recalls Ingrid. The friends became a couple.

As soon as Pascual said yes to doing the wedding, two chauffeurs, a Volvo and a Suburban, were put to his exclusive service by the Gos.

Pascual did the flowers and put in some pieces from his collection (like a pair of giant crystal candelabra) for the wedding ceremony at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park. But it was at the NBC Tent at the Fort where the reception was held that he really went to town.

It took two 10-wheelers and seven Elf trucks to transport everything to the site.

Porcelain angels

At dusk last July 7, 3,000 miniature bisque porcelain angels in different attitudes lined the entryway to the Tent to greet the 800 guests of the Go and Chua families.

One hundred and fifty huge crystal candelabras, garlanded with sampaguita, towered over each table. Pascual however "banned" flowers from the 100 dinner tables. In their place were jeweled versions, scores of them in crystal vases.

Pascual's crew had spent the past six months gluing thousands of semiprecious cat's eye stones onto ping-pong ball-size glass orbs, on silver-bead stems. Each

FANTASY/p.D5

PARENTS of the groom observing the newlyweds' church photo session with delight

THE NEWLYWEDS with the bride's mom Pacita, the groom's mom Rosie, Nancy Baluyut (Rosie's sister), the bride's paternal grandmother and the groom's dad, George

WITH FINANCE Secretary Lito Camacho and wife Kim

THE NEWLYWEDS with the bride's parents, Pacita and Benjamin Chua.

THE BRIDE stars in her own show, in a Vera Wang

THE GROOM is amused by whispers.

TO HAVE and to hold from this luminous day forward

FR. Boyd Sulpico, Imelda Marcos and Dr. Eleuterio Pascual, creator of the banquet setting

For the wedding of the children of two of the Chinese community's most illustrious families, Teyet Pascual conjured a fantasy reception complete with bisque porcelain angels, crystal candelabras, jewel flowers dotted with Swarovskis, and Meisen plates

Fantasy and perfection, all for love

TAIPAN Lucio Tan with the bride's father, Benjamin

MEGA heiress Tessie Sy-Coson with Louie and the groom's father, George

MEDIA CIRCLE. CNN reporter Michele Lee, Andrew Brown, Tiffany Pinkstone, Star TV reporter Jennifer Lee, Shaeena Mc Dermott, Star TV news producer Jennifer Takaki (maid of honor), Star TV reporter Mark Niu, Star TV news producer Lara Hartzenbusch, Star TV cameraman Sarni Ocampo, Star TV producer Steph Scawen and International Herald Tribune correspondent Tom Crampton

(From page D4)

jewel flower was dotted with Swarovski crystals. Twenty-four of these bejeweled blossoms graced each table. The oversized glass chasers (or underplates) of each place setting followed in suit, each painstakingly bordered in real pearls. The white Swiss piqué tablecloths, over the floor-length damask underlayer, received the same treatment, in hems of aqua-colored and gold beads. The jewels continued on that now archaic dinner-table accessory, the ashtray, in blue glass. One hundred molded glass soup tureens were adorned with beaded orbs echoing the jewel "flowers."

For the three presidential tables, Pascual pulled out all the stops, putting into service his priceless collection of antique Meisen and Flora Danica handpainted porcelain plates, which most collectors would never even dream of dining out of. Pascual has a larger collection of Meisen than Chanel designer Karl Lagerfeld. The chairs were all Biedermeier.

Crystal candleholders

At the center of each setting were draped specially made 24-square-inch napkins of linen bordered in blue lace, each napkin cinched by a silver ring on which alighted a silver butterfly edged in blue or burgundy glitter. Pascual had also fashioned votive candleholders out of crystal glasses. The effect of the candlelight—which was refracted through the crystal and bounced back a thousandfold off the innumerable jewels and gleaming surfaces—was simply magical. (Pascual re-assembled a table at his residence just for the Inquirer to get an idea.) In the end, it really wasn't the splendor of the objects Pascual employed that created the magic; it was his personal touch and uncommon sensibility that made such disparate elements a singular, moving experience.

"Perfect," Ingrid said of the fantastical setting. "The epitomé of perfection—that pretty much sums up my feeling from the time I walked into the church up to now."

"Some brides say, '*Sayang*, I should have done this or that,'" Ingrid continued. "But I have no regrets."

Pascual said his setting for the Go-Chua wedding was the most elaborate he had produced. "I dare anybody to do this," he exclaimed. "After this, *ayoko na, ayoko nang gumawa.*" But then we had heard him say this before.

Mommy's Guide to Wound Protection

Is using an antiseptic cream really necessary?

The answer is, yes. Because it helps heal your child's wound twice faster than applying nothing at all.

Q What's in an antiseptic cream that makes it effective in making the healing process faster?
A An antiseptic cream, like **Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream**, contains clinically-proven antibacterial agents like cetrimide and chlorhexidine digluconate, which effectively kill germs that cause infection. Its cream base also helps provide a moisturizing environment necessary for the faster healing of your child's wounds.

Q Is it only recommended for deep wounds?
A No. Also for minor wounds, which your active children usually get. Always remember that scratches, scrapes, abrasions, burns, insect bites and skin rashes could also get infected when treated improperly.

Q Can it also help relieve pain and swelling?
A Yes, it can help. Some antiseptic cream brands available in the market, like **Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream**, have special moisturizing formula, which cools and soothes the discomfort associated with the wound.

Q Does it cause irritation when applied on the wound?
A No. It contains no alcohol, so it does not sting nor cause any irritating feeling. It can also be absorbed by the wound quickly and effectively because it is water-based. That also explains why it gives a cool, refreshing feeling when applied.

Q What is the best way of applying antiseptic cream?
A First, you have to clean the wound with soap and water. Next, disinfect the wound's surrounding area with cotton and isopropyl alcohol. Then, apply a small amount of antiseptic cream on the wound. Lastly, cover the affected area with a plastic strip.

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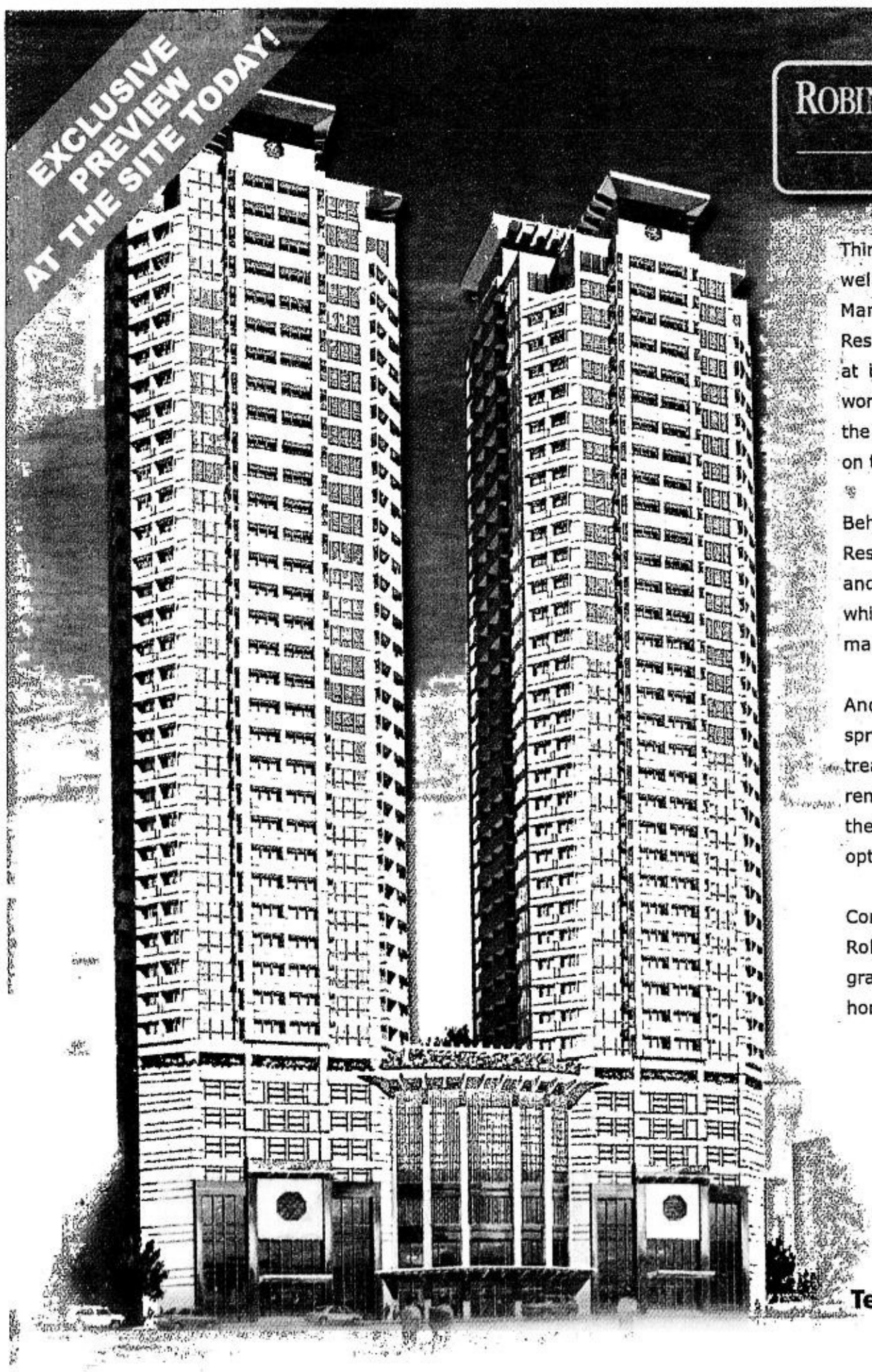

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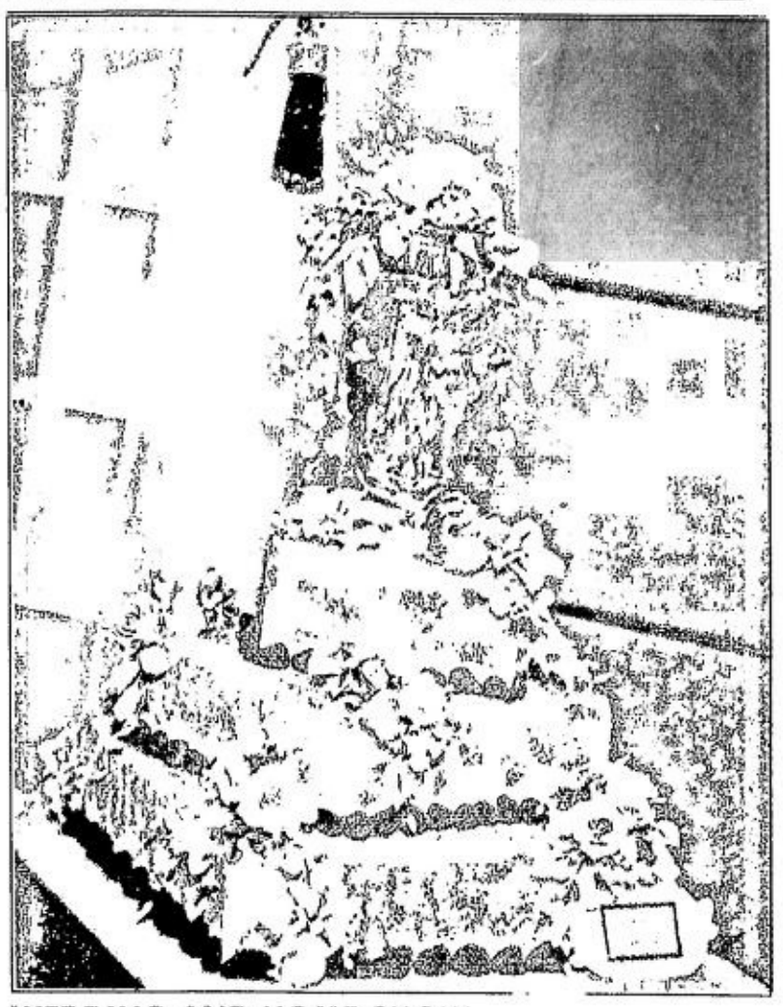

WEDDING AND HOME SHOW

ISLAND Peach Bakeshop is one of the participatin hibitors in The Wedding and Home Show, ongoing until Aug. 11 at th utomatic Centre and BLIMS Showroom, 6797 Ayala Ave. corner P ıra St., Makati. The Island Peach Bakeshop is located at the 3/ ıF ıuilding, 123 Visayas Ave., QC. Call 453-1174 and 453-1207

NEW ROTARY DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Maj. Gen. Rodolfo S. Estrellado was inducted as new Rotary district governor for District 3810 at the Manila Hotel Centennial Room on July 3. Shown in photo during handover ceremonies are (l-r) Estrellado, outgoing district governor Richard "Cheroy" Marquez, Linda Estrellado and Evelyn Marquez.

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Marriage preparation begins with engagement encounter

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

You have mentioned several times the topic on marriage encounter programs. I am engaged to be married, but I have postponed our marriage for several reasons. I'm the oldest of five siblings who need financial help for their studies, and my girlfriend, a nurse, keeps talking of wanting to work abroad. We have been on for two years now.

What is your advice? Is there a club or religious group that attends to those with problems like ours?

BONG

This is really a small world. Just after I received your letter, a brochure on "A Marriage Preparation Program" was faxed to me by the Catholic Engaged Encounter Philippines. And, yes, even if you are not a Catholic, you can attend. It is open to all couples. In Catholic theology, marriage is a Sacrament, but couples from all religions are welcome.

To quote from its brochure: "It is a weekend program that gives couples preparing for marriage the opportunity to examine their lives together through communication... a time to share their feelings, hopes, disappointments, joys, frustrations... and to do so openly and honestly in a face-to-face, heart-to-heart setting designed to deepen and enrich their relationship with each other and with God."

A team of two married couples and a priest share on various topics about married life. The weekend provides couples the opportunity to hear firsthand how others are working at their marriage. Each couple then privately discusses these aspects of marriage from the viewpoint of their own relationship...

The focus of this weekend is on couple reflection, discovery, understanding and development of a lifelong communication technique.

The Engagement Encounter is held in different retreat houses in and around Metro Manila. The weekend starts at 5:30 p.m., Friday, and ends at about 5 p.m. on Sunday. Due to many responses and limited space, reservation is on first pay-first served basis.

How much? The fee is at least P3,500 per couple, depending on the retreat house that will be used. It covers accommodation, meals, supplies and other incidentals. Still open as of this writing are Oct. 26-28 and Nov. 23-25.

To quote some couples who attended this weekend:

"Big, big eye-opener, a lot of discoveries about my partner and even myself. Free feeling!"—Mike and Bimbim

"We have become more caring, honest and open to each other."—Butch and Arni

"I wish I had known about this weekend after we were engaged because I would have had more time to experience with my fiancée the joy and happiness of being engaged instead of worrying so much about what was going to happen in the future."

Readers who would like more information or request for a copy of their brochure to be faxed to them can call the office of Fr. Dave Clay, MSSC at 523-3361 and 525-0308, Nina and Bing Arce at 932-2239 and 426-4120, or Marin and Sam Uy at 735-5824 and 244-7708.

The brochure has an application form you can fill out and fax to 726-6568 (c/o Anna Madamba) or 434-7878 (c/o Nina Arce).

* * *

Dear lady, who wrote about her B.U. (black underarm),

You can try Nivea whitening deodorant. It has licorice extract that whitens underarms. I saw the ad in the PDI issue dated 07/14/01.

E-mail the author at titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

FHL holds talk

FILIPINAS Heritage Library (FHL) and WeddingsAtWork.com are hosting "Little Things that Can Make (or Break) Your Wedding," the fourth of a series of bridal talks that aims to help brides and grooms prepare for their wedding day, on July 28, 2-4 p.m., at the FHL Reading Room.

Noted wedding consultant Caroline Sevilla will be covering topics on how to choose your flowers, music, lights and sound, décor, centerpieces, etc. Robert Blancaflor of 1816 Flowers will assist Sevilla in discussing flower colors, preferences, what to ask the florist, the flowers in season, where to buy, and the budget. Other details such as how to color-coordinate, where to find best suppliers, compliance in rules imposed by church and reception site, choice for church and reception songs, recommended wedding singers and budget will likewise be tackled.

A selection of wedding suppliers will be present to offer their products and services. Giveaways, freebies and raffles from suppliers await the brides- and grooms-to-be. Handouts will also be distributed. An admission fee of P75 will be collected upon entrance.

Since last year, the FHL has been assisting a number of brides and grooms-to-be by offering the Courtyard as an alternative wedding reception site. FHL is located on Makati Avenue across The Peninsula Manila.

WeddingsatWork.com is an online community of brides and grooms. The website features an extensive directory listing of wedding suppliers, a feature on celebrity weddings, interactive tools on wedding planning and a support group for brides and grooms who need help with their wedding preparations.

Call Cecille or Mia at 892-1801 or e-mail events@filib.org.ph.

She only wants her married lover

LOVE NOTES

Joe D' Mango

DEAR Joe,

Just call me Misty and I am one of the avid listeners of your No. 1 program, "Love Notes." The friendly way you offer advice moved me to share my love story with you.

It was May last year when I met Rod. He just joined the construction company where I was working and I was assigned to assist him. At first, I found it hard to approach him because he was the shy type and preferred to stay alone in his room, ignoring everybody around him. At first, I thought he was weird, but after a few weeks I found a way to draw him out of his shell. We became close to each other. I found out that he was interesting, intelligent, friendly and really fun to be with.

As days passed, we became closer. I thought at first that he considered me an elder sister since I'm five years older than him. He used to tell me about his plans, ambitions as well as his heartaches and disappointments. I was his confidante and I tried to help him in any way I can. Then a feeling of being more than just friends developed. It was an ecstatic feeling—each moment we spent together was pure magic. But the joy could not be complete. We could not openly show our relationship because he was already married, something I knew from the day we met. At that time, I did not care if loving him was right or wrong. All I knew was we loved each other. It didn't bother us what people around the office might say if they found out about us although we still tried to be discreet. My life revolved around him. I loved Rod very much and he was my first real love.

One day, Rod didn't report for work. I was terribly troubled. I felt that something was wrong. He was absent the whole week and it made me so miserable. Of course, there was no way I could contact him without letting his wife know what was going on between us. I felt the world shatter around me. After another week, I received a letter from him, together with his resignation letter. He told me he loved me so much but he preferred to stay away so as not to ruin my life. Rod didn't know how badly I was affected.

I was so angry and I felt cheated. I knew the consequences of loving the wrong guy but I didn't mind. This happened several months ago, but until now I have not gotten over Rod. I still love him and I hope that one day he'll come back. Am I wrong to feel this way? I have lost hope of finding someone else. It's Rod I want. Am I crazy?

MISTY

It is never wrong to feel this way for someone. What makes loving painful is when we expect the other person to give back this love with the same intensity. Most of us can't seem to love unselfishly because we always expect to get something in return when we give. You should be thankful that Rod had the courage to deny himself of what he wants, to preserve those that he needs. Put yourself in his wife's place and see how it feels if someone tries to take your husband away from you. A lousy marriage is not a good enough reason for couples to break their vows. If you only think of your own happiness, then it is not love you feel but selfishness. We can never be truly happy if it is at somebody else's expense. Accept Rod's decision.

E-mail Joe D'Mango at joe@ailink.net. His radio program airs on Wave 89.9 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Fridays.

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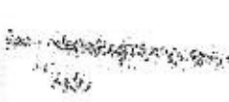
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To invite friends to join, key in **INVITE** <your friends' numbers> and send to 239. You can invite up to 3 friends at one time.

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2. Draw date will be on August 16, 2001. Winners will be notified by text message, a call to their registered mobile number and through registered mail.
3. Winners will receive their prizes by mail no later than September 16, 2001.

See flyers for details.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

'Never say never'–DSWD's Dinky Soliman

(Story on page E2)

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DSWD SECRETARY DINKY SOLIMAN

'Never say never'

PLAYTIME

By the staff

PHOTOS BY RANDY HORMILLOSA

THE TABLES have been turned. Corazon "Dinky" Soliman was for a long time an NGO leader, the kind who was a thorn on the side of government officials who neglected their duties. Now she is secretary of Social Welfare and Development and has been tasked to deliver basic social services to the people, most of whom live in dire straits. Not a simple job certainly, and not one that political appointees would fight over.

It is, however, a position that is tailor-made for Soliman, whose academic training is in social work (University of the Philippines) and public administration (master's degree, Harvard University, where she earned the Littauer Fellow Award for leadership and academic excellence).

Before she was tapped for the job by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo early this year, she was holding two positions entailing responsibilities far from lightweight. She was chair of the Caucus of Development NGO Networks, an umbrella organization of 14 major development NGO networks, and of the Philippine Agrarian Reform Foundation for National Development.

She was also the person whom Macapagal-Arroyo saw mobilizing, talking and doing a lot of facilitation work in Kompil. Macapagal-Arroyo dropped no hints whatsover about eyeing Soliman for a Cabinet post, although there were people who asked if she would be open to joining the government. Dinky said no. "Never say never," she laughs now. After the President's oathtaking, guess whose appointment she announced.

At that precise moment, Soliman was with the people marching on Mendiola Street toward Malacañang Palace to hasten the ousting of former President Joseph Estrada.

The small but terrible Soliman had to stop and reflect when the job was offered. She went to Mt. Banahaw with her husband, lawyer Hector Soliman, and that was where and when she began to look at the post as an opportunity to expand the public service she was doing through NGO work. This was her chance to bring about many of the things she—as NGO—kept demanding government should do. "Otherwise, what right do I have to say you do it when I myself am not willing to do it?"

She has been pleasantly surprised and encouraged by the professionalism and commitment of her colleagues in the DWSD. She admits it's not perfect, there are weaknesses, but she wishes to energize the bureaucracy "so that public service becomes a joy instead of a big burden."

Are you up to your neck with work now?

Yes, because so many things are happening all at the same time—the Mayon eruption, Basilan, impending floods and on top of that is the major anti-poverty program of the environment, Kapit-bisig Laban sa Kahirapan or Kalahi, of which I am a main promoter. This was launched May 3 and 4, but we did a preliminary in Payatas on May 2 with Gov. Lito Lapid.

How different is government work from NGO work?

I've been with the NGO movement since I left college in 1973. Forty-eight *na ako*. (Chuckles) This is my first government job. I think the biggest change I see is the media scrutiny. The hours we keep now are not very different from the hours we keep in the NGO world. The traveling I'm doing is not very different because in NGO work we also go out into the field; in fact, we spend most of our time in urban poor areas. The accountability as a public servant is wider and it is the public or society as a whole, and the media scrutiny is part of that. I get called at 6 a.m. (Chuckles) and I get asked what we're doing in Basilan, Mayon. Now I get stopped when I go to the mall with my children. (Laughs) But I have not encountered a negative comment. Most of them are encouraging. They always say, "I'm praying for you."

How many people come up to you now and tell you their life story? *May nangutang na po ba sa inyo*?

Meron. (Laughs) The main thing is you are accessible and can direct them where to go... *Kaya nga sabi ng* husband *ko*, "Remember that you're seen by everyone who watches TV. *Meron silang* frame of mind *kung sino ka*." I'm still not used to that. And the perception is that I can dish out money... other public servants won't be as open. But it was because of where I was coming from, minus the red dress and *payong* and the *sardinas* (Laughs) which was the caricature of social workers in the past.

But there is still a dole-out mentality among our people.

To a large extent, yes. I think part of where that's coming from, especially from among the poor and the poorest, is the long years of deprivation, both of recognition of rights and actual programs delivered by government... The dependency, to me, is part of the culture of poverty. Part of what we're trying to break is this dependency and get the sense of empowerment and rights, that they can transform their situation, that they have the opportunity to become active citizens that already benefit from some of the reforms they wish to happen in their own community.

They've never really been taught how to fish by the previous administrations. What is the present government doing about that?

What we have now is the Kapit-bisig Laban sa Kahirapan or Kalahi. The nickname is not an accident; it is intentional. Part of what we recognize is that we have been so divided as a nation and society. Kapit-bisig Laban sa Kahirapan is a program that seeks to address one of the fundamental reasons we are poor. Kalahi is to remind everyone subliminally that we are one race. We may have different beliefs, we may belong to different political parties, but we are one race.

The first is to deliver the message of compassion of this government and listen to what people say are their urgent needs and their long-term needs, the issues that confront them as persons or community.

The second is to bring in the minimum basic needs survey as well as deliver the immediate needs that they have identified from the first dialogue we have conducted. From the minimum basic needs survey, we are able to develop assistance that we call Cash for Work or Food for Work and Education Assistance. Temporary sources of income are so important now. Everybody knows how bad the economy is.

The third is addressing the fundamental causes of poverty in the urban poor areas, like housing, sustainable livelihood, health insurance, and sustained educational assistance and opportunities. There is a parallel effort in the rural area. The only change that is made is with the kind of fundamental problems they face—agrarian reform, ancestral domain, access to coastal resources.

The fourth element of this program is Healing the Wounds, Bridging the Gap, not only in the NCR but also in Mindanao and different parts of the country. There really is a big gap and many wounds have been experienced by the very people who are also poor.

The civil society groups are with us to hold reflection sessions to think about what happened in the last five months and what is the way forward. *Yung* reflection session is a very civil society tool to think about what happened and what it is telling us, how we will move forward as a nation. It will be led and organized by civil society organizations; government will just support it. Faith-based organizations, NGOs, academicians...

What's the poorest region?

ARMM is No. 1, then Regions IX and XII, Cordillera, Leyte, Samar and Negros.

Negros is poor?

Yes, because of the gap between the rich and the poor. The sugar industry is a sunset industry now, that's why... Danding Cojuangco is getting into ylang-ylang for YSL... mangoes...

Have you personally reflected on what happened in the last few months? You've been with the NGO and you had your feet on the ground, but did what happened on May 1 shock you?

Yes. I call it a humbling experience because I am one of those who think I know the poor, I understand the poor. Sometimes I even think I can speak of some of their concerns. I've lived with the poor from 1973-1981 in villages as part of my work, in Mindanao, Bicol and in the central plains. But when I saw that, it made me think very hard of two things. Many of my Marxist friends, me included, wanted and have tried so hard to bring on the class war... (Chuckles) That made me think of what they were saying that we did not say? I think what they were saying connected so much because they said it in the language that they knew.

May 2 we were in Lupang Pangako... and this was where those people came from. When I went there I realized I have been talking about these issues, but I needed to look again because there's a second poverty I'm not aware of. Most of the time, in my own work, I talk with leaders of urban poor communities. But we talk in convents, halls, big theaters. I don't even know what kind of homes they go home to. And when I went there, I learned what it meant to be poor again.

Now I'm advocating to everyone—government and the civil society advocates, even the political party advocates who have been known to speak for the cause—to go to any of these areas once a month and just be there because that was a humbling experience for me. That was when I went to the mother whose child drowned. I did it without the media. I was there with Etta Rosales... I went there before everybody had gone. It was a quiet thing; I just brought some stuff and cash assistance. You know, their house was a 10x10.

It's different—the advocates, those who speak for them, have very good intentions—but it's different when you actually see it, feel it, smell it and they touch you. That has a different dimension for me. The poverty I saw reminded me again of what they have to go through. And then I understood why the rage was there and why they were going out and saying to society, not just to government, "You've forgotten us. We're making you know so you don't forget us because of what we're capable of."

Were you part of the think-tank for the "Ate Glo" makeover?

No. I was only in a meeting one time when I heard that concept being thrown around by a few academicians...

Do you agree?

Actually, no, because it's not her.

Have you told the President?

No, she knows that. She's saying that to us. (Chuckles) "I am Gloria. If people want to call me that..." But she's not really keen on building up that kind of image.

How are you and the President being received?

Now it's warm. It is because many of the areas we're going to now are areas we've visited for the second and third time under the Kalahi program. Just to give you an insight... the barangay captain of Payatas was saying, "We really appreciate the medical mission and the explanation of the livelihood programs it will bring. And the school repairs you have done under the Kalahi program are actually finished. We would like to thank you." The people were warm and appreciative of the fact that she would go into areas where people normally would be afraid to go to because these are areas known to be pro-Erap.

How is she as a boss?

She's inspiring in two ways. One, she does not demand of you what she cannot do. Long hours, focused intervention—that's what she is. Secondly, she's a straightforward person. She tells you exactly what she thinks so you know where you stand. You'll know when you've done something excellent, adequate or inadequate. That's very important. She's candid among the [official] family. She's exacting of service because she wants all of us to be excellent public servants—high moral standards, transparent, effective and efficient and accountable to the constituency. That is the common refrain in all our meetings.

A lot of people think we've worked together in the past. Of course I knew who she was, but we've not worked together before. (Chuckles) I only met her personally in October 2000 when we merged the efforts of civil society groups in exacting accountability from the Estrada government, when we launched the RIO campaign—Resign, Impeach, Oust.

Have you ever had a disagreement with the President?

So far, no major disagreement. Minor would be... how she said things I would have said differently.

Is it true that before she goes to a depressed area, the DSWD would go there first to distribute goods? You prime them up for her?

No, no, no. It's all part of the visit. That was [only] done during the first four or five days after May 1.

You saw a need for that?

Yes. It was done with her push actually. When we were discussing the pro-Erap rallies at Edsa, we acknowledged that we needed to listen to the poor because they're saying something very legitimate, and we needed to hear that over and above the din of supporting Erap. She was pushing the idea. Then the attack happened. You saw the maximum tolerance given; that was her making the command. May 2, she invited me to have a meeting with Lito Lapid. She said, "At this stage we need someone with whom the poor can connect, whom they trust, who is familiar. Dinky, you're nice and very goody-goody, but you only know of a few people in the urban poor." (Chuckles) "They can connect with Lito Lapid. They trust him. I think it would be good if Lito and you can go and deliver the message that the government is compassionate. We are not angry. We want to help them." That's why in the evening she went to visit those who were caught. For the large crowd she knew she won't be able to connect immediately. When we went with Lito, I tell you, *talagang* connect *na* connect *sila*! (Emphatic)

Fake land titles *din*? (Laughter)

No! *Yan ang* no-no *sa kanya*! (Laughs) After five minutes of that speech by Lito Lapid, "*Palakpakan natin ulit ang Pangulo*!" My God! Thunderous applause! There is logic to that. We may not like it, we may not understand it, but that's where the people are. That's why I said Healing the Wounds, Bridging the Gap is very important. Many of us fail to understand the role of the cultural icons in the lives of the poor people. I think the cultural icons are like saints in the Catholic Church. (Grins) They see this guy as their hope, someone who is one of them and rose up and even became President. ...

***Wala bang* corruption *sa* DSWD?**

Procurement of goods that we give out is one possible area of corruption. Some are donated, but most of it we buy. The other possible area is when there are foreign goods donated... The President, during her time [as DSWD secretary], issued an administrative order that we are now not accepting used clothing from abroad. *Yun na nga nasa ukay-ukay*. It is not just a source of corruption, but it competes with the garment industry. So far *wala pa akong pinapapasok*. The only one I think that's coming in is from the Middle East for Region XII.

Another cause for potential corruption... is travel clearance. We discovered last summer when someone called us that they were being charged P2,000 for travel fee clearance. We checked and so we learned it was the travel agency that was charging them that. That's a free service; no fee at all. If a minor is traveling alone, you need a travel clearance. If the minor is traveling with someone who is not the parent, you need one. When the minor is traveling with only one parent, you need to get a parental permit to protect separated couples or custody issues. Travel clearance is free that's why travel agents are making money out of this. We came out with it in the INQUIRER last May, but I think we need to come out with it again.

You should require the travel agencies and ticketing offices to put signs.

Yeah. Usually these are former overseas workers or richer families who can afford to travel.

So what relief goods can the public donate for the Mayon evacuees?

Mineral water, milk and for non-food items, blankets, mosquito nets, playthings for the children so that they don't get bored, flashlights. They can give them to us or to the other organizations that are helping.

***Nakakarating ba talaga yung mga* relief goods?**

Meron talagang mga instances *na hindi umaabot*. Used clothing is one. For the most part, if you have a good provincial disaster coordinating council, it reaches them. One of the things that is not understood by many is that when a disaster strikes, the first level of assistance comes from the local government unit. There are municipal social workers and development officer, and provincial social workers and development officer. They have their own budget that comes out of the IRA. If they need more, then they ask for it so that's when we come in. One of our mandates is to help build the capacity of the local government.

What are you doing about the street children?

They are one of our main areas of concern. We're building on what the President had begun, which is Sagip Bata, Ahon Lansangan. There are two types of programs that we do. One is the rescue, where we take them off the streets and bring them to the centers and we integrate them with their next of kin, depending on the condition of the family or next of kin. If we cannot integrate them, they stay in the center until they reach the age of majority or 18 years old. They go to school and we equip them with life skills. If they're very young—which is not usually the case with street children except for babies who are left behind—then we put them up for adoption, foster care homes. The other thing we do is we have street educators. This is like a halfway thing. Social workers who are trained on how to provide education to street children try to give the basics. The real challenge with street children is we need to go to the root, which is the family in a poor community. If we can improve the lives of these families in these poor communities, then the communities become a haven for these children. Right now the communities are congested, places where they're abused, places where they feel it's a dead end. And so they take to the streets where they think it is a better life because they can have money on a regular basis depending on what you do—you beg, you sell yourself, you become a courier of drugs... Part of the rehabilitation is to help them get them back to more structured life. It's so unstructured in the streets that's why when they get to the centers it takes time to get them used to the structure so it's really a challenge.

How about health insurance for the poor?

What we're trying to do with Philhealth is to develop a system where the poorest of the poor can have a card and this card will entitle them to services that are emergency in nature. We're also developing something with PCSO because PCSO already has that card. We're also working with the Bigay-Puso Foundation, the Cabinet wives of the Aquino administration. What they want to do is work in the Quezon Institute area. They want to establish a clinic where they would give free medical services, consultation and hospitalization to card bearers.

What about DSWD services for the disabled? Since they are not able to work and support themselves, in other countries they get a monthly stipend for life. We don't have anything like that here. Are we ever going to have one?

We hope so. We have a National Council for the Welfare of the People with Disabilities. That is supposed to be a council that monitors the compliance with the laws. One law is the accessibility law, which means all public buildings should be made accessible to all people with disabilities. The other is a law that requires all public agencies to hire 10 percent of their employees from the sector of people with disabilities. The problem is, there has been a freeze on hiring regulars. There is no budget. What we hope it could do is to move into those kinds of thinking—what kind of direct assistance can be given to those with different disabilities. Right now the consciousness of that sector is quite high because the President came from the DSWD. In discussions she would mention that ICT would be a good opportunity for the physically challenged. By making use of the computer you are able to make available to a lot of physically challenged people the opportunity for jobs.

What about the mentally challenged?

Ganun din. Iba-ibang stages *kasi yan ng* ability to work. Like autism, they are trainable.

What about the problem of violence against women?

Yung NGOs and the department have just developed two types of intervention for violence against women, programs that help women understand they need not accept their situation. *Kasi may* syndrome *yan, eh, kung wala kang* means *o wala kang pupuntahan dahil* you're economically dependent on them. You begin to believe what the abuser says is true and it's your fault and you deserve to be battered. The program is to help women understand that that is not the case and they need to be counseled. Part of that is to have centers, which we call havens, where the women can run and take cover from the perpetrator. All regions must have at least one. The other regions that are a little bit richer could have two.

Let me be candid. In our havens, the way they do counseling with the women is they train women how to cook, how to keep the house...

That's not empowerment.

Right! Of course they talk about rights, but the framework is still the traditional roles.

And worse than battery is incest.

Iba pa yun. Iba yung incest, *iba yung* child rape... We have what we call the Erpat program, which is new. It is geared primarily to the perpetrator to help the men deal with their violent nature. More often than not the perpetrator comes from a violent family, meaning he himself was abused as a child and therefore thinks

NEVER/ p.E3

Would you recommend public service to friends?
I would,
to people who
are open and
adventurous and
willing
to question their
core beliefs
about things

***Totoo ba na kapag nagagalit siya* [the President] *nambabato ng* cell phone?**
I haven't seen her do that. (Laughter) I don't think so.
***Hindi pa kayo nabato*?**
Hindi. (Laughter)
***Nakailag kayo*?**
*Hindi. Magka-*height *nga kami, eh*. (Laughter)
Nagkakaiba lang kami sa height *ng* heels *ng* shoes

'Never say never'

(From page E2)

it's natural. Erpat is a seminar of three days where you talk to the men and then there's a follow-through. I really need to look into the module especially on the gender perspective because it is not as clear as it should be.

I have a question about Jaloslos... How come he was able to run?

That's one question I also asked. I feel like it's a crime. I feel like writing to the Dipolog residents and telling them, "Do you know what you're doing?" He can still run because the case is on appeal and therefore it is not yet final and executory that he is guilty and therefore should be punished.

I want to find out if the adoptive father of Jalosjos' victim is still in jail.

We can trace that. One of the things I'd like to contribute to the department is this whole business of adoption. June 9-15 I was in the UN and on my way back, I knew there was a repatriation case of an 18-year-old baby and a 20-year-old woman. The baby and the woman were both victims of human trafficking. Moment of grace *talaga. Alam kong magkakasabay kami. Nagkatabi kami.* For 12 hours from New York to Tokyo I talked to the woman. I even helped take care of the baby. It turns out the baby was brought by an American man to the US under fraudulent papers. The fraud was discovered by the US embassy, but they had issued the passport. The baby had a US passport because *Amerikano yung* the one claiming to adopt the baby. What alerted the immigration was the US embassy said they had fake adoption papers, and they arrived on May 22 and on May 23, the guy had a return ticket but the baby didn't. They're under our care now. *Pagbaba ng* airplane, *hinintay ko yung* social worker then nag-turn over *kami*. She was brought to a center, now she's under foster care family.

Were you able to locate the parents?

We're investigating it now. We've located the alleged girlfriend who is supposed to be adopting the baby.

Do you still get to spend time with your family?

(Chuckles) With great difficulty. I try to leave Sundays free. I try to touch base with my two children. One is a 13-year-old girl and the boy is 16 years old. He's in fourth year high school at Community of Learners. My daughter is with the Seed Montessori. We try to touch base in the evening. My husband and I have a ritual every morning. One of us wakes with the children and we try to have breakfast with them. That's early, like 5:30, *kasi* my son takes the school bus. My husband and I have a closing ritual at the end of the day. We either have a snack or talk. It's a ritual, but we need to touch base even if it's 12 a.m. or 1 a.m. That's important. That's how I keep up with my work as a wife and mother. On weekends, we try to work out a schedule that we have time together.

Do you cook?

My husband is a better cook, but I do cook. He comes from a Pampanga line, *eh*. My mother is from Negros Occidental and my father is Manila-born, Malate. I grew up in Tarlac because my father was assigned in Central Azucarera.

What do you do to unwind? It must be draining to see all the hardships of other people?

I'm basically an optimist. I think part of where it comes from the belief in a God in people. No matter how bad you are, there must be something good inside you that I have to touch base with.

What I do to unwind? I like to take long baths. I'm a water person. I also like to read and exercise if I have the time; I haven't found that. (Chuckles) Brisk walking is my main exercise. I go to the gym. I also like to meditate, be quiet in a corner. And massage.

Who massages you?

My husband.

Wow! How romantic!

(Smiles) Yeah, that's part of our ritual.

What if the President calls while you're having a massage?

Then I'll answer her. (Laughter) She has not called during a massage, but she calls at 11 p.m. She's a very ICT person—information communication technology. She uses the cell phone a lot, she has a laptop, she e-mails.

***Totoo po ba na kapag nagagalit siya nambabato ng* cell phone?**

I haven't seen her do that. (Laughter) I don't think so.

***Hindi pa kayo nabato*?**

Hindi. (Laughter)

***Nakailag kayo*?**

Hindi. Magka-height *nga kami, eh*. (Laughter) *Nagkakaiba lang kami sa* height *ng* heels *ng* shoes.

Are you comfortable wearing your clothes now? What did you usually wear when you were with the NGO?

One of the things I tried to do was to maintain a semblance of what I used to wear, which was ethnic. This is a stylized ethnic. The earrings I'm keeping except for formal functions. The heels are new because most of the time before I was in *bakya*. You have to have some height when you have all these people beside you and, of course, some level of formality. That's my adjustment. I really had clothes made for me because I was used to *maong* and T-shirt, which I still wear for my field trips.

What's that streak on your hair?

(Laughs) It's clip-on!

Really? (Laughter) Where did you get that?

(Laughs) At Glorietta. I started wearing this in 2000.

You were not stopped from wearing that as part of the Secretary image?

No. But some kid me. (Laughs) *Sa* Payatas *nga, sabi nila*, "Ma'am, *pareho tayo*." *Inalis nila yung sumbrero*, yellow *yung sa kanya, yung isa* red. (Laughter) I have three actually. One is this (blue), the other is purple and then I have a green one which I will not wear, I think. (Laughs) Trademark *ko na, eh. Ako na ito*. In 2000, it was because I wanted to be a little different because it was the new millennium. Purple *noon*. After a while it was getting tiresome putting it on. I brought it back in November because we were getting so depressed, there was a sense of desperation... I thought, why don't I do something different to lighten up? I even said if he resigns, I'll remove this. When I joined public service, I thought I'd keep it because it keeps [my feet] on the ground. It is me when I was in civil society—a little irreverent, a little offbeat. I wanted to be a little irreverent, a little offbeat, even if I was a public servant. (Chuckles)

You were with the NGO and the way people saw the NGOs before was that you're always finding fault with the government. Now that you've been with the government and when you get out of it, do you think you will be kinder to the next government, seeing what you've seen?

Kind of, and I think more able to see the areas of productive collaboration. I think that is the challenge we face now, where all stakeholders concerned feel they're working for the common good, and they don't feel that it is a compromise, and that if they move from different positions or thinking, it is for the common good. Even my good friends in civil society, I think, are going through a dilemma of my role in their lives now. (Laughs) It's a different kind of relationship because I'm with government and they're with civil society.

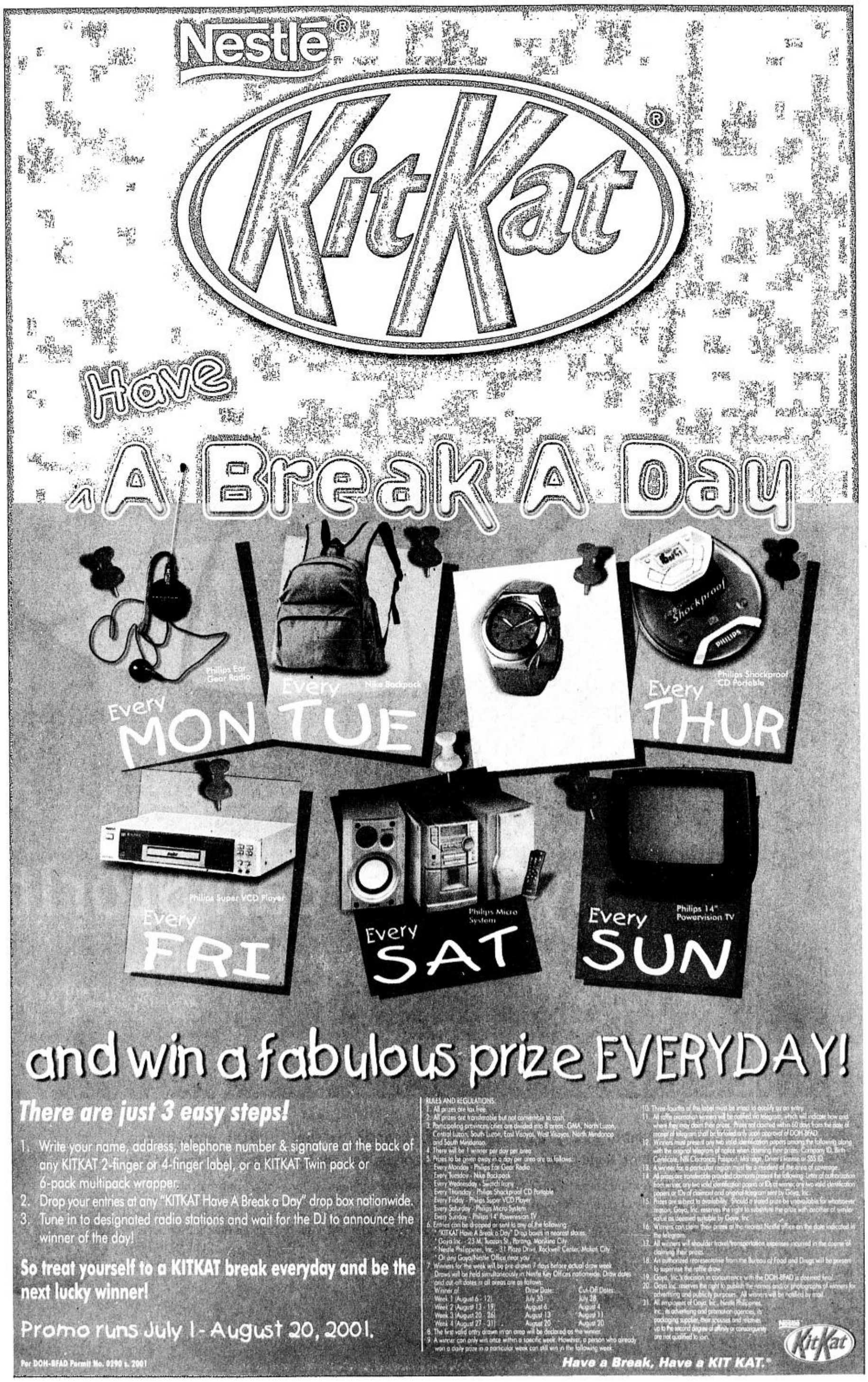
'The advocates, those who speak for [the poor], have very good intentions—but it's different when you actually see it [poverty], feel it, smell it and they touch you'

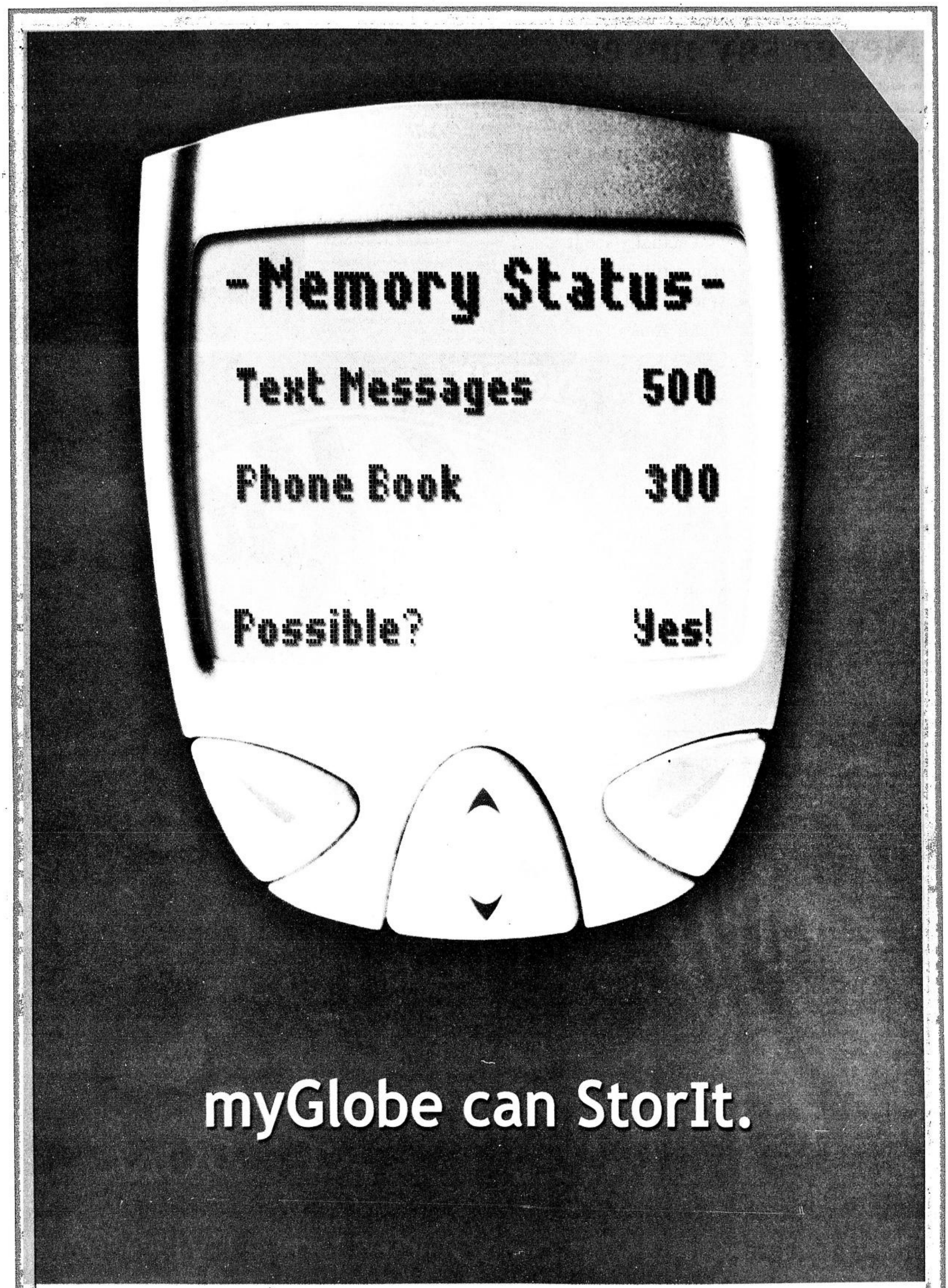
Would you recommend public service to friends?

I would, to people who are open and adventurous and willing to question their core beliefs about things.

Do you think you're going to stay in government?

I think I will continue to stay as long as I see I am effective in public service, and also if the government continues to uphold the values and principles I uphold. If that is no longer the case, then it is time for me to go back to civil society. (Chuckles)





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SMART president and CEO Napoleon L. Nazareno receiving the award from GSM Association CEO Rob Conway.

'Electronic wallet' wins international award

SMART Communications Inc. has received the award for Most Innovative GSM Wireless Service for Customers in the 3GSM World Congress in Cannes, France.

The company was specifically cited for its "electronic wallet" service called Smart Money, which bested three finalists from European operators.

The annual awards are considered the most prestigious in the international GSM community. The GSM Association consists of about 500 of the world's leading telecommunications equipment suppliers, operators, IT and other companies supporting the development of GSM as a global standard for digital cellular telephony.

Launched in December, Smart Money is the world's first and only reloadable electronic cash card linked to a cellular phone. It was developed in partnership with 1st eBank, an affiliate of Metro Pacific Corp. and MasterCard.

Smart Money can be used to pay for everyday purchases at MasterCard establishments. It can also be used to transfer cash from one Smart Money card to another, and to pay for "remote purchases," such as pizza ordered through a Smart mobile phone.

Designed to handle small purchases, Smart Money has both consumer and business applications. Companies with extensive dealer networks can use it as a convenient and secure payments mechanism. The GSM Association received over 360 entries, described as "of incredibly high standards", for the 2001 awards.

Awards were given in six categories. Aside from the Most Innovative GSM Wireless Service for Customers, other awards were for the GSM in the Community, Best GSM TV Commercial, Best GSM Technical Innovation and GSM Association Roll of Honor.

Association chair James Healy said the growing number and higher quality of entries reflect the rapid growth in size and sophistication of the GSM community worldwide. GSM mobile phone services are now available in over 160 countries. The total number of subscribers worldwide is nearing 500 million, making GSM the most widely used digital mobile phone standard.

"Winning the innovations award is just like bagging the gold medal in the Olympics. We are already talking to a number of parties about propagating the Smart Money concept and technology," said Napoleon L. Nazareno, Smart president and CEO.

"Meantime, we're working on the subsequent phases of the Smart Money project where we will implement new features and capabilities that will make Smart Money even more flexible and useful than it already is today," he added.

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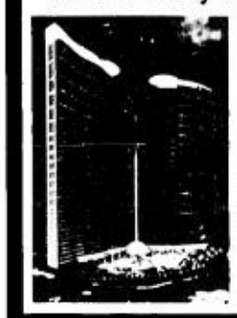

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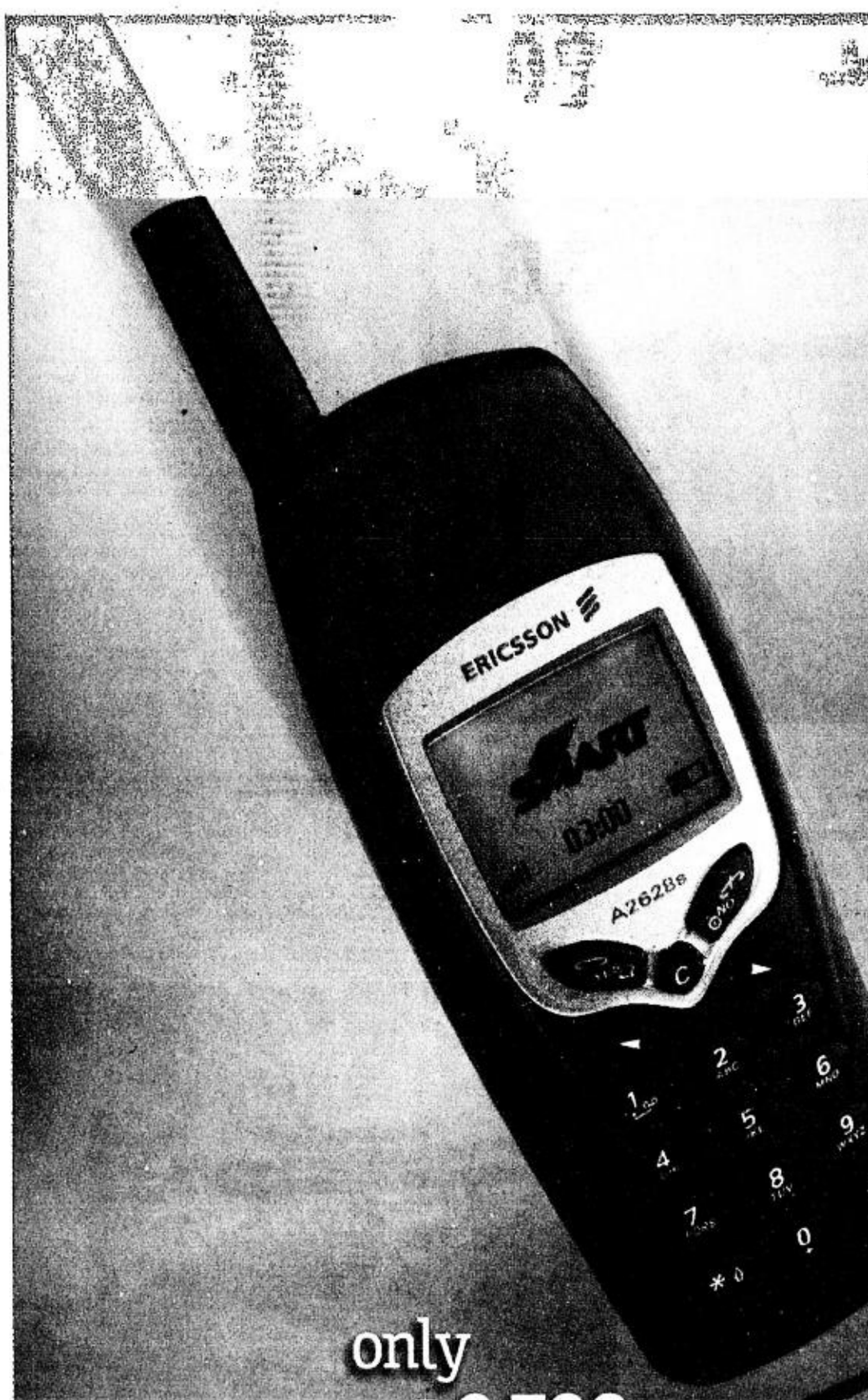

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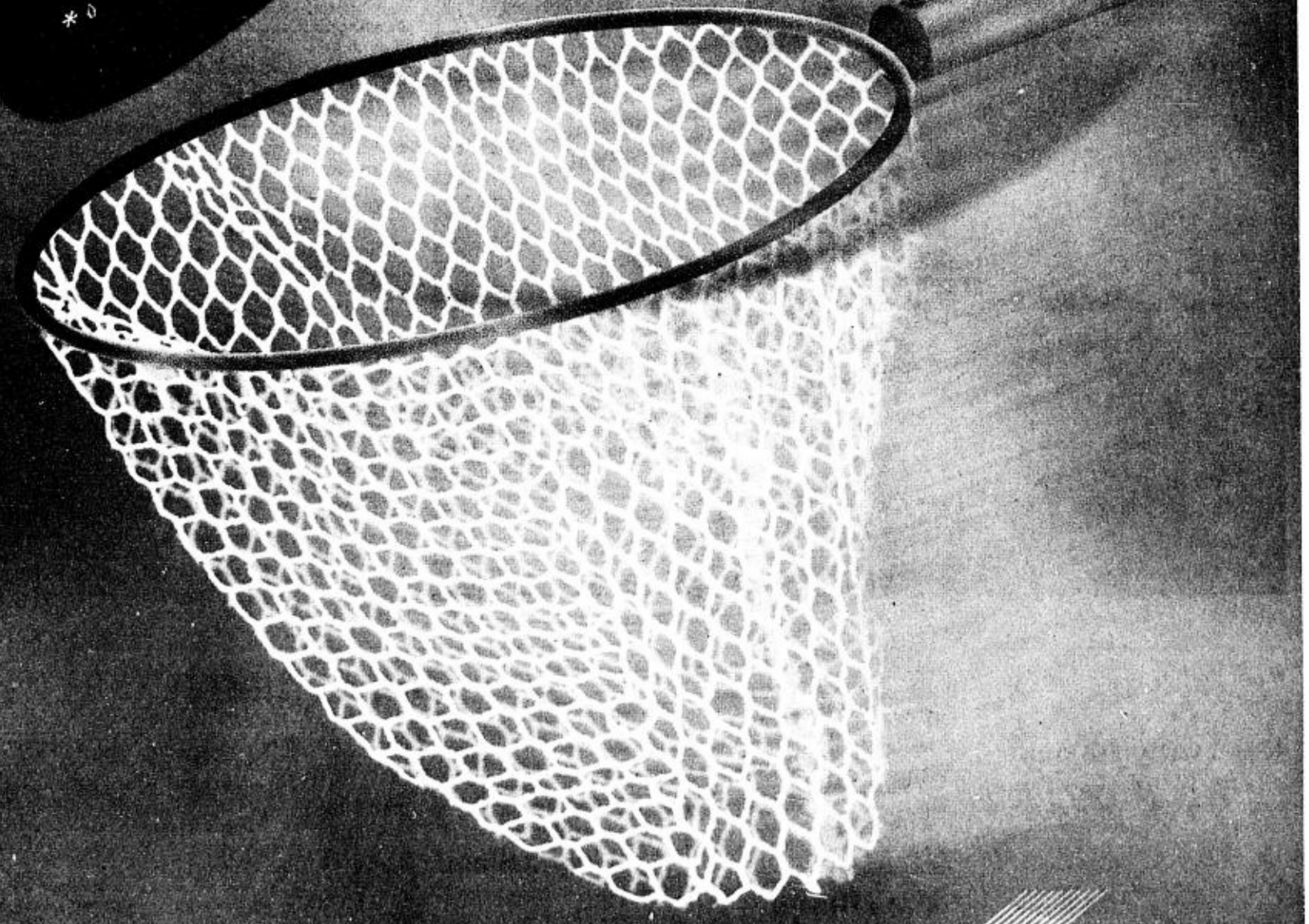

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TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY AMADÍS MA. GUERRERO

MEET Nicolas Rambeau, 39, of France, a lawyer with artistic inclinations.

In his native Paris he defended many clients, like this husband (Tunisian) who was threatened with deportation by his jealous wife (French). Despite what he described as a brilliant defense, Rambeau lost the case. But he eventually won, as he had foreseen, because he encouraged his client to make up with his wife, assure her that he was faithful to her, that he loved her, etc.

The lawyer made quite a pile in the exercise of his profession. But he longed for tropical splendor and natural beauty. And then he came to the Philippines and fell in love with Siargao Island in Surigao del Norte, facing the Pacific Ocean.

"So it's a love story," concludes the lawyer who reinvented himself as an entrepreneur and general manager of a resort. "But it's also love-hate. I love the place, but I hate what they're doing to it, like dynamite fishing and putting concrete all over."

"Filipinos prefer the American culture," Rambeau observes. "In fact, I think they're a little ashamed of their culture. But there's so much beauty around. Native materials like bamboo, wood and *nipa*, for example, are beautiful."

He recalls that Siargao was the Philippines' "best-kept secret" when he arrived six years ago.

But not anymore, the island having become an international surfing center thanks to the promotions of the Department of Tourism.

But there is much more to Siargao than surfing. And there's also the bigger neighboring island of Dinagat, practically undiscovered, and just as alluring, if not more so, than Siargao.

Pansukian

Rambeau, who is also a diving instructor, settled down in a secluded area in General Luna, Siargao, and built the high-end Pansukian Tropical Resort (website: www.pansukian.com).

Pansukian—"the island of the sea urchin" in the local Surigaonon-Visayan language—is named after a nearby sandbar. Sandwiched between an impressive panorama of mangroves and a big lagoon with the obligatory palm-fringed, white-sand beach, the resort projects native elegance amid lush foliage and chirping birds.

The architecture is Asian-inspired (Indonesian, Philippine and Thai), with sharp, pointed arches, *nipa* roofs, bamboo structures and wooden boardwalks. There are nine cottages and 12 rooms with many amenities, including air-conditioning and a ceiling fan (or both), mosquito nets, queen-size beds, verandahs with hammocks, and hot and cold running water.

The décor and furnishings in the rooms and pavilions, tastefully laid out, are redolent of indigenous culture: batik designs, T'boli finery, rice baskets from Ifugao and Palawan, and wood carvings by local talent.

The cuisine at Pansukian is among the best I've tasted in the way of resort food. Rambeau trained the cooks Sally and Biyay, and so the meals are a heady mixture of French and Philippine flavors—prawns, chicken, fish (tuna, salmon, tanigue, etc.), stuffed tomatoes, and vegetables in coconut milk (the *kangkong* was nice).

A sea hawk named Maurice and a monkey named Momoy are the resort pets.

Maurice arrived at the resort with injured wings. He was cared for and fed until he became a permanent resident. He cannot fly around too much, and he cries out in greeting (or in alarm) whenever a visitor approaches him.

More sociable and entertaining is the frisky, lovable Momoy, who clambers all over the guests, cuddles up to them, parts their hair, and bites their ear as a show of affection. She adores Rambeau, who indulgently allows her to sip his pineapple-rum drink and then make off with the ice cubes, which she chews—a scene found only in Pansikuan.

Getting there

Siargao lies 800 kilometers southeast of Manila in Caraga (Region 13), on the northeast coast of Mindanao. It is accessible from Manila and Cebu by plane and by ship (SuperFerry 12, four times a week). From Mactan, Cebu, you can take a 20-seat Seair plane to Del Carmen in Siargao, where a vehicle will take you to the resort of your choice.

All the resorts in Siargao are within a radius of 7-10 km.

The 45-minute plane ride is interesting in itself. You pass Bohol, the coast of Leyte, and then Dinagat. On the eastern coast of Dinagat are fantastic limestone cliffs, although you cannot see these from this altitude. Then the plane descends slowly over Siargao, and what you see are the vegetation-covered limestone cliffs, quite a number of them, and the hidden lagoons of Caub (also known as Kangbangyo).

An alternative (but longer) route to Siargao is through Surigao City (SuperFerry 5, twice a week). Take a fast craft to Dapa, Siargao (two hours). As the sun rises over the Surigao Strait, you will behold a silvery seascape of islets, mangroves, undulating mountain peaks and hillside trees etched against the horizon. At Dapa, take a motorcycle ride (P100 per) through the verdant countryside.

Truly beautiful

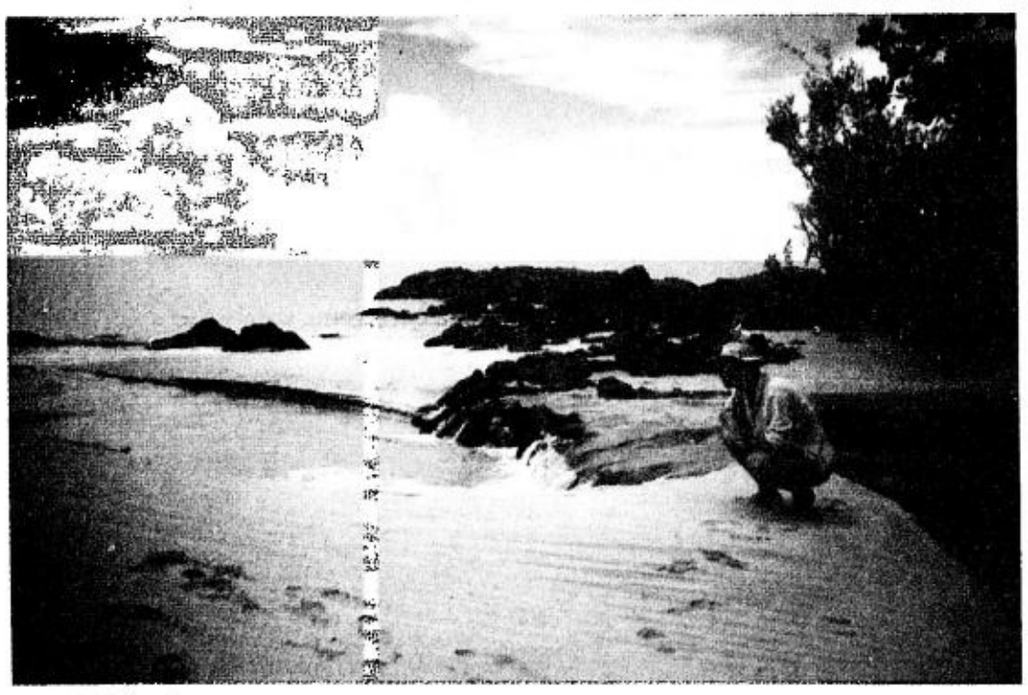
Within and around the main island of Siargao are many dive spots, surf points like Cloud 9 and Tuason, beaches, and island and islets, most of them truly beautiful.

These include the twin islands of La Janosa and Mamon, the wide Pansikuan Sandbar, Rock Island and Pacifico; Bucas Grande, with its limestone rocks and river that leads to the Suhoton Cove and a hidden emerald lake; Daco Island and its thriving coastal community; and Guyam Island, striking for its circular white-sand beach and symmetrical palm trees.

Another revelation is Caub, with its limestone cliffs and hidden lagoons *à la* El Nido and Coron in Palawan. It is a treat to go kayaking there, as I did, with resort staff Ricky paddling merrily behind me and, at one time, battling the crosscurrents.

I listened to the ripple of the waters, the gentle thud of paddle on kayak, the call of birds (sounding almost like a human whistle), and marveled at the swarms of little flying fish. (But my tranquil hour, my communion with nature, was rudely interrupted by the discordant sound of a forbidden chainsaw. Someone, unseen, was filching wood.)

As the twin-engine speedboat skims over the bay, the deep blue waters turn aquamarine although you are still far from shore, and you see coral beds all around. Then, as you near the beaches, the waters become transparent, lukewarm, and perfect for swimming, snorkeling and hunting for shells (the Philippines reportedly holds 70 percent of the world's shells).



DINAGAT in the raw

THE INCREDIBLE lightness of the Pansukian Sandbar (top); sunrise over the Surigao Strait

The unlikely pair of Maurice and Momoy roams 'the island of the sea urchin'

During our island-hopping interlude, Rambeau points eastward to an area of churning waters, saying: "That's why we are well protected here."

Dinagat

Bigger, and even more unspoiled and pristine than Siargao because it has not been developed for tourism purposes (there is only one resort in the entire island), is Dinagat.

Two hours away by speedboat from Siargao, the island has craggy limestone cliffs with varied shapes on its western coast, and beaches to the east. In between are well-maintained forests that a French tourist found an interesting area for an informal study of beetles.

Dinagat's attractions are numerous—limestone cliffs and hidden lagoons, friendly coastal communities, islands, islets and mangroves, sandbars and coral gardens.

There are also forest, flora and fauna ("We saw a Philippine eagle over Dinagat!" a Frenchwoman excitedly reported), unspoiled landscapes, coves and caves, wide beaches and unpolluted bodies of water.

"I think Siargao and Dinagat are the most beautiful places in the Philippines," exclaims Rambeau.

You may argue the point, but that is the little secret of our *tres sympathique et gentil* Frenchman, who followed his dream and created a tropical, foliage-laden haven far away from his native land.

"*J'aime aux* Philippines. *Je suis Philippin* (I love the Philippines. I am Filipino)," he declares.

PALM-FRINGED pavilion

WELCOME smiles

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Reservation system

AN ON-LINE worldwide hotel reservation system, Hotelexchange.com, is now open to any hotel and travel agent who wants to register for free.

The system was set up as a response to the present need of travel agents and hoteliers for a reservation system that is in tune with advertising and marketing innovations. It is programmed to tap thousands of hotels and travel agents worldwide.

Hotelexchange.com is the latest in "B2B (business-to-business)" technology. Only member hotels and travel agents can access the system because they will be provided passwords and user names.

It is a subsidiary company of Asiatravel.com holdings Pte. Ltd., a Singapore-based company, which is listed in the Singapore Stocks Exchange.

To register, visit www.hotelexchange.com or call Dodie Diaz at 746-8945/634-4220 loc. 108 or e-mail dodie@hotelexchange.com.

'Aqua Buffet'

THE MARCO Polo, Davao gives you a new dining experience as its Café Marco explores the beauty of the sea with an "Aqua Buffet" starting July 27.

Café Marco will relive the lost city of Atlantis, displaying the beauty, wonders and abundance of sea life in a buffet featuring European, French and Pacific Rim cuisine.

Blue lights, glass aquariums, deep blue glass plates and tableware enhanced by colorful seashells will complete the ambience.

For inquiries and reservations, call (082) 221-0888 loc. 7202.

'Grand Slam'

YOU can win a 3-day tour of Bangkok and Hong Kong and air tickets to Boracay through the Grand Boulevard Hotel's "Grand Slam Room Package."

The hotel is offering grand service and room rates of P2,800 net for superior and P3,800 net for deluxe rooms, good for single or double occupancy and inclusive of a sumptuous buffet breakfast for two.

For inquiries and reservations, call the hotel at 526-8588.

Pilgrimage

THE SANTO Niño of Prague, much loved by the Czech people and millions of devotees worldwide, is one of the pilgrimage sites to be visited by a group leaving Sept. 26.

Czech history is intertwined with the Prague Child, whose altar of fine silverwork can be seen in the exquisite Our Lady of the Victorious Church.

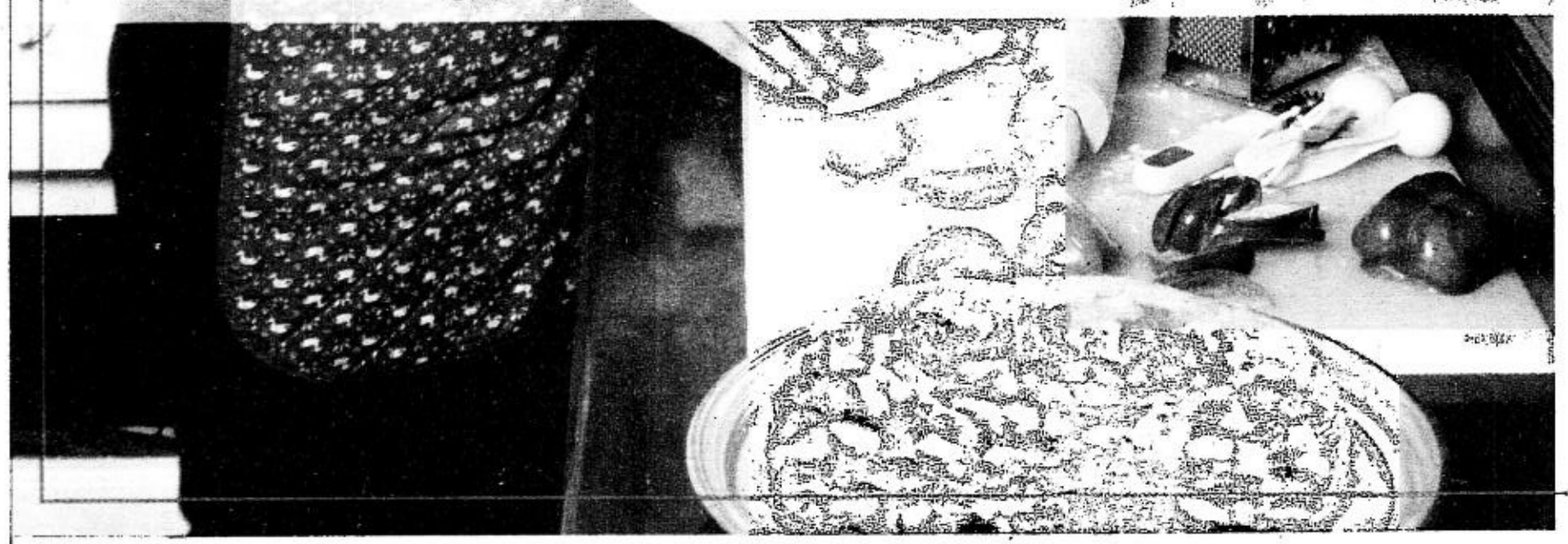
The group will also pay homage to the miraculous Divine Mercy and Black Madonna in Poland, and visit Berlin, Vienna, Budapest, Moscow, St. Petersburg and Medjugorje, where apparitions and miracles are continuing.

For inquiries and reservations, call Adam's Express Travel at 536-1736 or 37.

OPTIMISM

Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon (center) poses with Philippine Airlines president Avelino Zapanta (second from left) and Japanese travel agents through whose efforts 360,000 Japanese tourists visited the country last year. At their meeting, Gordon presented the reasons behind the Philippine government's continuing optimism vis-à-vis the local travel industry.

Making pizza at home with Anton has never been this much fun.



Tina, 36, spends time with son, Anton, 5, in the kitchen of their Citta Italia Romagna home.

Home is Citta Italia. For only P11,311 a month.

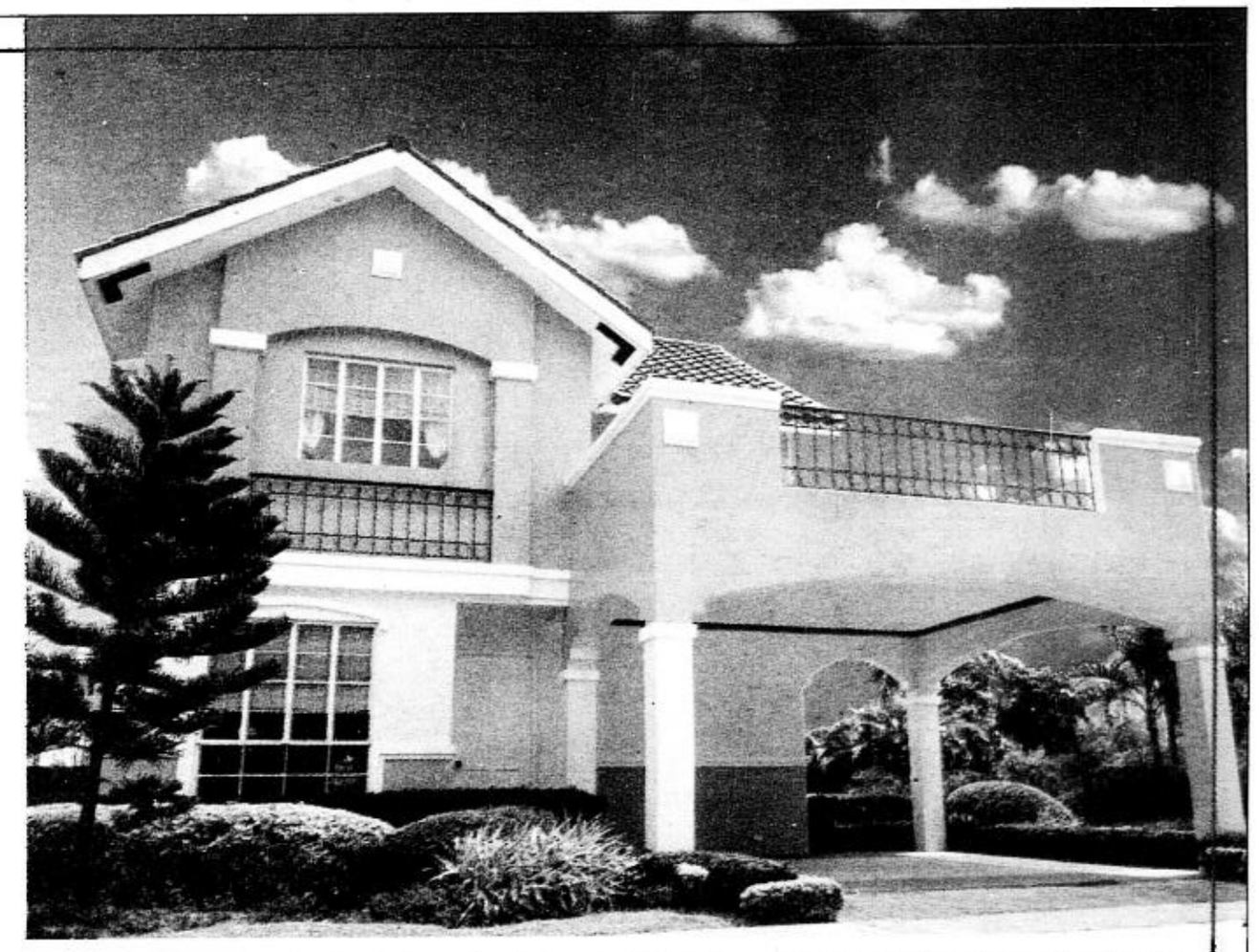
"It's amazing how much fun you can have with your kids when you're not worried about something.

I still remember when we used to rent a small place in a crowded neighborhood in the city. My husband and I felt regretful each time we settled the rent, it was like paying for something that can never be ours. And on top of that, the neighborhood, bad roads and poor security bothered us.

We were pleased when we saw Citta Italia. Crown Asia has always built beautiful homes and fine communities. But we were ecstatic when we learned about the flexible payment options--we could actually afford to ***own*** a home here. The rate was almost as much as our monthly rental fee!

We rarely worry about security and convenience now. My friends love my Italian-inspired villa (they couldn't believe it only takes P11, 311 a month!); and best of all, because I feel more at ease, I spend more quality time with Anton.

There truly is no place like home. But there's nothing like owning the home you live in."



The two-storey Romagna home has three bedrooms, three bathrooms, a family room, a maid's room, a viewing deck, and a two-car garage, all of which cover 188 sqm of space.

- Citta Italia is situated in Imus, Cavite. Be captivated by its lovely fountain, Romanesque statues, paved streets and sidewalks and Italian-inspired villas.
- Choose a villa from ten Italian styles: Adrianni, Alessandria, Cellini, Francesca, Marci, Medicci, Romagna, Trevi, Venici and Vinci. These have two or three bedrooms and floor areas of 48 sqm to 188 sqm.
- Relax in the premiere clubhouse of Citta Italia, Piazza Italia, which has facilities like swimming pool, basketball court, multi-purpose hall, business center and gym.

View our model houses today, and see the beauty of a furnished Citta Italia home. Call us or visit our booths at Robinson's Place Ermita and Duty Free Philippines near the NAIA.

For more details on other Citta Italia homes, feel free to call us at ***873-1614, 807-8777, 873-6709*** *or visit our website: www.crownasia.com.ph*

CITTA ITALIA

Getting there via Coastal Road: Take the Coastal Road to Zapote, then turn right at Aguinaldo Highway going to Imus until Palico Road. Watch out for Robinmart Grocery on the left. Turn left at Robinmart to Mambog Road. Watch out for the Citta Italia billboard, then turn right at JICA Road. Follow the cemented road until you see Citta Italia on your left.

Via Alabang: Take the Alabang-Zapote Road towards Cavite. Watch out for SM Southmall, then turn left at Moonwalk Village to Marcos Alvarez Avenue. Follow the road to Molino (Molino Wet and Dry Market will be your landmark), and turn left. After 200 meters, turn right to Bahayang Pag-asa (Shell Station will be at the corner). Follow directional signs going to Mambog Road until you see Citta Italia on your right.

Via South Superhighway: Take the Carmona exit and follow the national highway towards Puerto Azul. Upon reaching Aguinaldo Highway at the end of the stretch, turn right. You will pass Immaculate Conception Academy, Waltermart, La Salle University, Orchard, Makro, and Robinson's. Watch out for Robinmart Grocery on your right. Turn right at Robinmart to Mambog Road and watch out for the Citta Italia billboard. Turn right at JICA Road and follow the cemented road until you see Citta Italia on your left.

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3	ALL THE SMALL THINGS	BLINK 182	TONE ALLTHE
4	ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST	QUEEN	TONE ANOBITES
5	BRAND NEW DAY	STING	TONE BRANDNEW
6	BREATHE	PRODIGY	TONE BREATHE
7	DOES'T REALLY MATTER	JANET JACKSON	TONE DOESNMA
8	DREAM ON	DEPECHE MODE	TONE DREAMON
9	I LOVE ROCK 'N ROLL	JOAN JETT & THE BLACKHEARTS	TONE ILOVEROC
10	UPTOWNGIRL	BILLY JOEL/WESTLIFE	TONE UPTOWN

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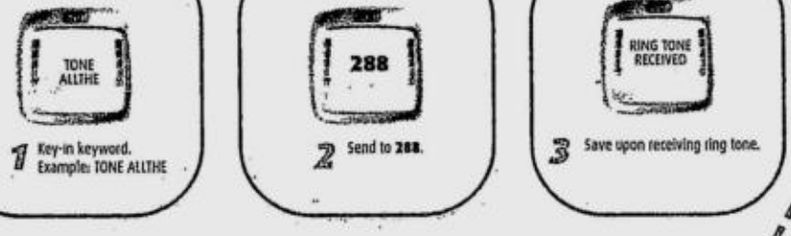

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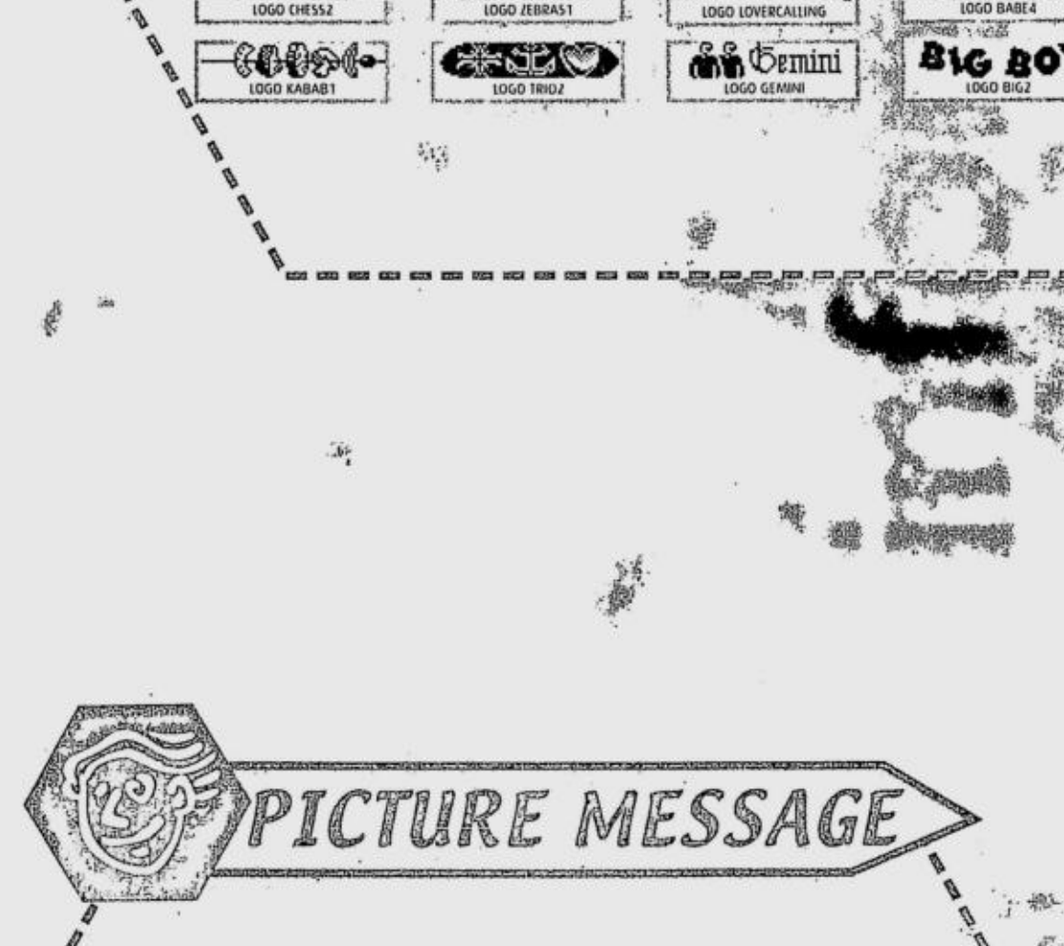

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- not over 40 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
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BUILDING ADMINISTRATION MANAGER (OG-BAM)
- not over 30 years old
- graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
- at least 3 years work experience in building administration

SELLING MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (OG-SM /S)
- female, not over 30 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity

CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (0G-CSM / S)
- female, not over 30 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- with pleasing personality and has strong customer focus and has enthusiasm and patience in handling inquiries and concerns
- at least 1 to 2 years related work experience in customer service or customer relations

COUNTER / CHECKING MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (OG- CCM / S)
- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year experience in counter or credit card transactions in the same capacity

WAREHOUSE MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS (OG-WM / S)
- male, not over 32 years old
- graduate of Commerce or Industrial Engineering
- with extensive experience in warehousing and other related functions

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SUPERVISORS / REPRESENTATIVE (OG-CRS /R)
- male, 5'5 ½ " in height; 22-32 years old
- female, 5'2" in height; 21-32 years old
- graduate of BS Criminology or at least 2nd year college
- flexible to different work assignments
- with pleasant disposition and developed motivational skills

Candidates for the position should have the following competencies:
- excellent communication skills both verbal and written form
- can relate well to all levels of the organization
- proficient in computer software applications
- team-player, goal-oriented and able to work well under pressure

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TRAINING OFFICERS (SAG-TO)
- not over 32 years old
- graduate of education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4 year business course
- at least 2 years related work experience in human resource development
- knowledgeable in the conduct of training needs analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of training programs and activities related to behavior and skills development of employees

PERSONNEL OFFICERS / SUPERVISORS (SAG-PO /S)
- not over 32 years old; preferably female
- graduate of Law, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course
- at least 3 years work experience in all facets of personnel management
- willing to work on weekends and holidays

ACCOUNTING OFFICERS / SUPERVISORS (SAG-AO / S)
- not over 32 years old
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- at least 2 years related work experience in a supervisory capacity and adept in all accounting operations

DESIGN OFFICERS (SAG-DEO)
- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Architecture, preferably licensed
- knowledgeable in AutoCAD

DISPLAY OFFICERS (SAG-DO)
- male or female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of Fine Arts, Advertising or Interior Design or any related 4-year course
- at least 1 year experience in visual merchandising

PROGRAMMERS / COMPUTER OPERATORS / TECHNICIANS (SAG-PCOT)
- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Computer Science / Engineering
- preferably experienced in the repair, trouble shooting and maintenance of cash registers

ENGINEERING OFFICERS (SAG-EO)
- male, 25 - 30 years old
- graduate of Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, preferably licensed
- at least 1 year supervisory experience in building operations/property management

SECRETARY (SAG-SEC)
- not over 28 years old
- graduate of Economics, Management or any 4-year business course
- at least 1 year related work experience

NURSES (SAG-N)
- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of BS Nursing, preferably licensed
- at least 2 years in a medical establishment or as a Company Nurse

TREASURY SUPERVISORS (SAG-TS)
- female, not over 32 years old
- graduate of Accounting or Banking & Finance
- at least 2 years supervisory experience in accounting funds management or treasury functions
- familiar with banking operations and Central Bank procedures

Interested parties may send their comprehensive resume with recent photo to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
Mezzanine (Right) Unit 4
Central Plaza I Bldg.
JP Laurel Avenue, Davao City
Position Code: _____

Tel. Fax : (082) 222-8782

Metro Manila based applicants may apply personally from Mon. to Fri., 9am - 5pm or send their comprehensive resume with recent photo to:

THE RECRUITMENT DIVISION MANAGER
400 Carlos Palanca St., Quiapo Manila
Position Code: _____

E-mail : RECRUIT@shoemart.com.ph

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If you are – an expert in Chinese and Asian food. Food preparation for you is both a passion and an art. You are hardworking and with high sense of urgency. You can work with the team. You can work for long hours in the development and perfection of your art. You are flexible, resourceful, and supportive in transforming your menu specials to commercial production processes. JOIN US. Male or Female.

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VICE PRESIDENT for MARKETING

You are tasked with leading the Marketing Operation of the company by navigating its sales strategy, product development and market positioning. You are responsible for overseeing the marketing scheme of the company's national and international operations. You are also in charge of steering the trajectory of the company's aggresive drive to capture greater market shares.

- must have thorough understanding of the pre-need business or similar manpower intensive sales operation
- must be profit oriented, with sufficient understanding of finance
- with extensive people network, preferably on nationwide basis
- must be good at recruiting sales heads nationwide
- must be very good in senior level strategic marketing and sales management
- must be articulate, impressive in communication skills, with pleasant personality, and skilled in people's relations
- able to achieve pre-agreed sales goals and objectives
- experience wise, must have good track record in pre-need, insurance, or other similar sales and people intensive businesses
- male, at least 35 years old
- must have at least 8 years of management and marketing experiences in the pre-need or similar industries
- must be known to excel in sales production, manpower recruitment and sales organizational development
- preferably with an MBA or similar masteral degree

Compensation package is open and includes over-all sales overriding commissions.

TREASURER

You are tasked with safekeeping the financial resources of the company. You are also responsible for managing the use of such financial resources, to make it grow even in these difficult times. You may have to act also as the comptroller of the company, to steer its financial direction, maximize the use of its fiscal resources and sustain its operation

- must have worked in a medium to large size corporation in an executive capacity
- must have performed excellently as a comptroller, treasurer and/or other similarly top-level financial management positions
- must have good actual or working knowledge of business investments, and marketing sales operations
- must be able to identify and evaluate new business opportunities
- must have the will and ability to make things happen according to approved strategic plans and programs based on the hard times of the present economic condition
- must be able to make market reviews and propose new business strategies to enhance productivity of the company and its subsidiaries
- minimum of 4 years' experience in a financial analysis or financial project evaluation environment
- preferably with CPA, MBA or equivalent educational background
- fluent English, strong in communication and interpersonal skills
- independence, initiative, creativity and assertiveness are also prerequisites, and must be very personable
- must be at least 40 years old, with strong entrepreneurial inclinations

Compensation package is open.

PLAN PROCESSING DEPARTMENT HEAD

You shall take charge of the department, to plan and implement its efficient and effective operation.

- must have relevant work experience in a supervisory or managerial capacity for a pre-need or other companies engaged in financial services
- must be adept in verifying authenticity of contracts, generating accurate and timely reports,
- overseeing operation of claims and benefits sections
- must have leadership skills and adept in interpersonal relationship, able to deal with various personalities
- preferably patient, attentive to details, conscientious, hardworking, dynamic, pro-active and result-oriented
- must be trustworthy, reliable, very computer literate
- a college graduate with pleasing personality, with above average written and oral communication skills
- 26-30 years old of above average intelligence

RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST / INVESTIGATOR

You are tasked to research on the nature of the jobs to fill, search for qualified candidates and primarily, to verify the credentials of executives for hire.

- must have work experience relevant to executive search and background investigation
- preferably a graduate of Criminology or other research intensive course
- experienced in candidate search, recruitment procedures, job evaluation and records management
- must have experience or skills in job ads copy writing, adept in surfing the internet and savvy with computers
- with above average written and oral communication skills
- attentive to details, thorough and comprehensive in interviewing and reporting
- excellent people skill, can relate and discern well, with pleasant personality
- highly mobile, with motorized vehicle, licensed to drive and familiar with Metro Manila and its vicinity
- must be a dynamic team player, pro-active and creative
- 22-28 years old

PROGRAMMERS

- male or female, graduate of Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- with at least one (1) year working experience in ORACLE programming using Developer 2000
- preferably can tune and troubleshoot ORACLE programs and knowledgeable in Database Administration
- experience in MS Access programming, an advantage

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR / ASSOCIATE AUDITOR

- Accounting graduates from reputable universities
- flexible, hardworking, and can work under pressure
- proficient in computer applications, particularly MS Word and Excel
- with above average oral and written communication skills, personable
- prior working experience in the same capacity an advantage

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College graduate; with at least two (2) years sales experience; with excellent interpersonal, communication and selling skills; must be aggressive, dynamic, highly motivated, able to adapt to a fast paced environment; with great presentation and persuasion skills; experience in corporate accounts management in the IT/Telecoms and finance industries a definite advantage.

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

College graduate, with excellent interpersonal and communication skills; must be familiar with site acquisition, lease coordination with mall/building administrators and contractors; with exposure in the following areas: asset management. insurance, purchasing and handling of manpower agencies; mature, assertive, independent and must be willing to travel to sites nationwide.

BRANCH SALES SUPERVISOR

College graduate; with at least three (3) years supervisory experience in sales and/or customer service in reputable consumer or direct selling firms.

Successful candidates can look forward to a competitive compensation package & above-industry benefits. We urge all qualified applicants to send their comprehensive resumés with contact numbers, transcript of records & recent photos to:

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Graduate in Business Management, Banking & Finance, Accounting, Economics or equivalent. Have at least 5-10 years professional experience in business and general banking with concentration on financial and budget planning and control, corporate planning activities; financial and accounting systems. Ability to program in Access and PowerBuilder. Knowledge about Web development tools preferably Microsoft Certified Engineer (MSCE). Familiar with reporting tools like Business Objects and OFDM. He must be familiar with Management Systems development and maintenance preferably in an on line database environment. At least 3 years experience in managerial capacity actively engaged in planning leading organizing and controlling resources. Have technical writing and communication skills particularly in preparing quality reports. High analytical and with solid background financial analysis. Good command of both oral and written English. Between 25-35 years old.

FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

Graduate in Business Management, Banking & Finance, Accounting, Economics or equivalent. Experience in banking or in other financial institutions with concentration on financial and budget planning and control; corporate planning activities; financial and accounting systems. Ability to program in Access and PowerBuilder. Knowledgeable about Web development tools preferably Microsoft Certified Engineer (MSCE). Familiar with reporting tools like business Objects and OFDM. Knowledge in technical writing and communication skills particularly in preparing quality report. High analytical. Good command of both oral and written English. Between 25-35 years old.

METHODS & SYSTEMS SUPPORT OFFICERS

Graduate in Business Management, Banking & Finance or Accounting. Management Engineering or any computer related courses. Experience and exposure on general banking operations, services, accounting systems and procedures writing. Computer literate; knowledge of most commonly-used office softwares such as Word and Excel. He has the ability to program in Access and PowerBuilder. Knowledgeable about Web development tools preferably Microsoft Certified Engineer (MSCE). Familiar with reporting tools like Business Objects and OFDM. Exposure to Project Teams as Team leader or as a member. He must posseses excellent command of both oral and written English. Good problem solving and analytical capabilities. Minimum 5 years experience preferably in a financial institution. Preferably with experience in ON2 or any other ATM>POS systems and credit card systems like Multipac. Between 25-35 years old.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT OFFICERS

Graduate in Business Management, Banking & Finance or Accounting. Management Engineering, Computer Science or any other courses which could be compensated by considerable management experience. Must have experience and exposure on general banking operations and services, accounting systems. Computer literate; knowledge of most commonly-used office softwares such as Word and Excel. Ability to program in Access and Power Builder. Knowledgeable about Web development tools preferably Microsoft Certified Engineer (MSCE). Familiar with reporting tools like Business Objects and OFDM. Ability to manage a team, good planning and organizing skills. Min. 5 years experience and exposure on general banking operations and services, customer related activities, financial and credit management, accounting systems and procedure writing. Between 25-35 years old.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

College of University degree. Experience or exposure in banking and/or financial institutions. Computer literate; knowledge of Windows OS and commonly used office softwares (e.g. Microsoft Office) Must know technical writing and communication skills particularly I preparing quality reports. Good command of both oral and written English. Min. 3 years experience handling administrative, secretarial and/other related functions. Between 25-35 years old.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS PLEASE SUBMIT/SEND 2 SETS OF RESUMÉ TO:

INTERNATIONAL PROGRESS INC.
61 E Timog Avenue, South Triangle, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 9267427/9242112/4157247
Fax nos. 4165298/9267427
E-mail address: ipiees@nsclub.net
No fees to be collected
For manpower pooling only
Beware of illegal recruiter
This ad is approved by POEA

The Company You Keep.

At **New York Life,** our employees, our agents and our customers have made us who we are – a leader in the life insurance industry.

That's what makes us a "**Company of Firsts.**"

New York Life Insurance – one of the America's largest and top companies based in New York City with affiliates across Latin America and Asia, with representative offices in 83 countries.

In Celebration of 156 Years of Strength and Innovation, New York Life Insurance is rapidly expanding into emerging markets around the globe, just like New York Life (Philippines), one of the newest additions in the Philippine insurance industry.

For Career Opportunities. See us at New York Life. The Company You Keep.®

Recruitment Specialists

If you are a graduate of a 4-yr. course preferably BS Psychology, Behavioral Science or Marketing, with at least 2 –3 years work experience in Recruitment of agency force coming from a life insurance company, aggressive and dynamic, you are what we are looking for to implement recruitment strategies for New York Life Insurance (Phils.). Inc.

Branch Training Specialists

If you are a graduate of a 4-yr. course with at least two (2) years of work experience in agency training from a life insurance company, dynamic person, with excellent communication skills both written and oral, and must be able to conceptualize training modules, you are the right person to lead, motivate and inspire a team of agents.

If you are interested in these career opportunities, fax your resume and cover letter or e-mail to:

The HR Department, New York Life Insurance (Philippines), Inc.
28/F PBCom Tower, Ayala Avenue corner Herrera St., Makati City, Fax No. 818-2704, e-mail address: **raquel.pasaraba@newyorklife.ph or rhona.gabriel@newyorklife.ph**
No attachment please. Visit our international website: **www.newyorklife.com**

Deadline of Application is on **July 30, 2001.**

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Philippines
Need for Consulting Services for the Preparation of a Project Investment Proposal for the Special Zone of Peace and Development (SZOPAD) Social Fund II

The World Bank Office in Manila (WBOM) has recently received approval of a grant from the World Bank's Japan Policy and Human Resources Development (PHRD) Fund. The grant will be used for contracting consultancy services (the Services) for the preparation of the SZOPAD Social Fund II.

The Services include providing assistance to the Government of the Philippines (GOP) in the detailed preparation of a multi-sectoral and community-driven investment project proposal covering the SZOPAD area in the provinces of Mindanao (Southern Philippines) and the island province of Palawan. The proposal will be the basis for World Bank financing (and possible co-financing by other donors) and would include major outputs such as project preparation document and supporting annexes, operations manual and other relevant documentation required by the World Bank, GOP and possible co-financiers. The services are expected to commence in mid-September 2001, draft final outputs to be submitted in January 2002, and final report following consultation process/feedback (by about mid-March, 2002).

The WBOM now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the Services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consulting firms may associate to enhance their qualifications. Strong preference will be given to firms which have Mindanao-based groups and key team members.

The consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (revised September 1997 and January 1999)".

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below from 0900 - 1700 Hours, Monday to Friday, except holidays.

The World Bank Office in Manila (WBOM)
23/F, The Taipan Place Building
Emerald Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines
Tel: (632) 637-5855; Fax: (632) 637-5870
Attention: Mr. Richard Anson, Senior Rural Development Specialist & Task Team Leader
E-mail: Ranson@worldbank.org
Or Ms. Ma. Theresa Quinones, RD Operations Officer
E-mail: tquinones@worldbank.org

The Expression of Interest (EOI) must be delivered to the above address no later than August 9, 2001, 1200 Hours.

CIGI SIG

An excellent career opportunity in Finance is presently available for the qualified applicant. CIGI is in need of a:

FINANCE CONTROLLER
(Code: FC)

Qualifications:
- Male or Female, not more than 35 years old.
- The position will be based in Manila.
- Graduate of Accounting from one of the top schools in the country, preferably a CPA, an MBA degree preferred.
- With an equivalent of 10 years experience in a multinational manufacturing and audit environment; at least 4 years of which in managerial status and the other years spent hands-on in all other areas of accounting, budgeting, tax and financial planning. Actual experience in financial statement preparation, consolidation, financial reporting and analysis are musts.
- Knowledgeable in special laws and implementing rules and regulations governing PEZA and Industrial Park locators.
- Must be knowledgeable on corporate and individual taxation laws, implementing rules and regulations.
- With excellent oral and written communication skills in the English language, analytical and able to interface effectively with all operating units of the business.
- Excellent inter-personal skills.
- Must have had at least one year experience in financial package software
- Proficient in Excel, Word and Power Point
- Willing to travel and a holder of a valid driver's license, with at least two years of continuous driving experience.

Should you possess the above qualifications, please forward a letter of intent together with your CV with a 2x2 picture to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Consolidated Industrial Gases, Inc.
CIGI Building, Sheridan Street, Mandaluyong City
Contact Person: Sol Himan
E-mail Address: sol.himan@cigi.com.ph

RADIOWEALTH FINANCE COMPANY, INC.

Is looking for dynamic & highly competent individuals to strengthen our expanding operations in the financing industry.

MARKETING MANAGER
27-35 years old / male / graduate of 4-year business course preferably BSBA Marketing/ with commendable scholastic records & communication skills /personable/ w/ good interpersonal skills, with 3 years relevant experience an advantage

MARKETING ASSISTANT
female, single, 21-25 years old/ graduate of 4-year business course preferably Marketing /Advertising/ Mass Comm/ Computer literate/ with excellent communication skills / personable with good interpersonal skills

JUNIOR AUDITORS/ACCOUNTING CLERKS
single, 21-25 years old/ graduate of 4-year business course preferably BSC Accounting or BS Accountancy/ with commendable scholastic records/ proficient in oral and written communication / personable with good interpersonal skills, willing and able to travel and/or be assigned in other branches for Junior Auditors

RMCD SUPERVISOR
single, 21-30 years old/ graduate of 4-year business course preferably BSC-Accounting or BSBA /with commendable scholastic records /proficient in oral and written communication /personable with good interpersonal skills, willing to be assigned in Mindanao.

PROGRAMMER
single, 21-25 years old/ graduate of 4-year business course preferably BS Computer Science or Information Technology, highly proficient in Fox Pro & Fox Plus, with a strong background on system analysis, database management, MS Office, Web design & networking, personable with good communication skills

PERSONNEL CLERKS
female,single, 21-25 years old/ graduate of 4-year business course preferably BSC Accounting or BS Accountancy and Behavioral Sciences / with commendable scholastic records / proficient in oral and written communication / personable with good interpersonal skills.

3/F Guevent Building, No. 49 Libertad Street, City of Mandaluyong
Tel Nos 531-2354, 531-0423, 531-0416

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN SINGAPORE!!!

DEPARTMENT MANAGERS FOR CONVENIENCE STORE
- ☑ Male/Female, below 33 years old, preferably single
- ☑ Bachelor Degree graduate of top university
- ☑ Service Industries experience in supermarket operations for at least 1 year
- ☑ Able to speak fluent English

SALES ASSISTANTS/CASHIERS
- ☑ Male/Female, below 33 years old, preferably single
- ☑ University Degree graduate
- ☑ 3 to 5 years experience in a Supermarket
- ☑ Able to speak fluent English

Preliminary interviews will be conducted daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at

MABUHAY PERSONNEL & MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.
9564 Jaime Street, Airport Village, Baltao, Parañaque, Philippines
Tel. Nos. 851-8882 to 83; Email: mpms2000@the.net.ph

Please bring comprehensive resumé, 2 pieces 2x2 pictures, certificates of employment, transcript of records and diploma.

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY
NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED
"MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITERS"
THIS AD IS APPROVED BY POEA

MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL-PROFESSIONAL

Our company represents the market leader in container and heavy cargo handling equipment based in Europe and USA. Presently, we are in search of a highly-qualified person to fill the position of:

SERVICE ENGINEER

Qualifications:

- EE/ECE Graduate
- At least 5 years experience in heavy equipment maintenance
- Resident of Manila / Pasay / Navotas preferred
- Willing to travel nationwide / abroad for training
- Good character, excellent health

Remuneration Package

- Salaries and fringe benefits are negotiable
- Service vehicle after probationary period
- Definite long term career growth awaits the successful candidate

Mail your resumé by August 10, 2001 to:

The President
Unit 706 Herrera Tower
Herrera corner Valero Streets
Salcedo Village, Makati City

Up for a challenge?

Logistics Manager

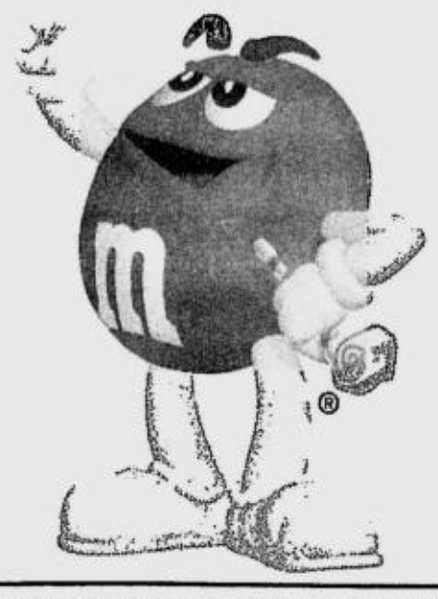
The Logistics Manager will be responsible for managing and controlling the entire pipeline from all sources of product and material supply from 3rd party suppliers and source units, through to the end-customer. The jobholder will also be responsible for the management and development of the logistics team and customer service team of associates.

The role is instrumental in driving the necessary improvements and changes in the pipeline in order to help better align the Master Foods business with its environment. This will involve managing a logistics provider and its 10 warehouses, inter-warehouse deployment, 3 re-packing facilities, and domestic and duty free sales ordering, as well as implementing Continuous Improvement Programs.

Candidates must have an excellent academic record and several years experience in a senior supply chain management role. Strong analytical skills, drive, initiative and a hands on approach will be essential . Also needed are first rate communication skills, self-motivation, and an ability to achieve high standards while managing a busy schedule and very tight deadlines.

Master Foods Philippines, a MARS, Inc. Company, is responsible for such snack food brands as M & M's®, SNICKERS®, MARS® , MILKYWAY® and STARBURST®. We are also behind renowned pet food brands PEDIGREE®, WHISKAS® and CHAPPI®.

m&m's · MilkyWay · Starburst · Pedigree



Send your resume to The Personnel & Organization Division
Master Foods Philippines, Inc., Ayala Life-FGU Center
19/F #6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
or e-mail: mfpi.jobs@ap.effem.com

The application period ends on August 3, 2001. We will only respond to qualified applicants. Previous applicants need not apply.

Mars

A WELL ESTABLISHED FIRST CLASS RETAIL COMPANY IS IN NEED OF TOP CALIBER INDIVIDUALS TO FILL IN THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

DIVISION MANAGER for Personal Care

- Between 30-40 years old
- Minimum of three (3) years experience in product management and development of consumer products in a managerial capacity
- Degree in Business, preferably in Marketing or Economics, an MBA degree or units is an advantage
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

SALES MANAGER for Personal Care

- Between 28-35 years old
- Graduate of a four (4)-year Business related course
- With at least two (2) years managerial experience in a direct / retail selling environment
- Preferably with good exposure in distributing consumer products to supermarkets
- Cable in handling sales, operations, and marketing aspects of a growing direct retail business
- Creative and with good communication skills
- Must be computer literate

PERSONNEL MANAGER

- Female, between 30-40 years old
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science / Studies or Human Resource Management; a Masteral degree is an advantage
- Minimum of three (3) years experience in a similar capacity, handling all facets of HR work
- With very strong leadership qualities, organizational and interpersonal skills
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- Possesses a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Highly motivated and results-oriented
- Computer literate

Please send or e-mail your application documents with contact numbers indicated, transcript of records, and a recent 2 x 2 photo to:

P.O. BOX 100
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
5th Floor, Building B, Megamall, Mandaluyong City
e-mail: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(subject: MEGA-R)

(Only qualified applicants will be scheduled for an interview)

GLOBE TELECOM

"WE ARE THE COMPANY OF CHOICE BECAUSE, IN WHAT WE PROVIDE, WE ARE THE BEST."

Awarded the 2000 Employer of the Year by Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP)

RADIO NETWORK PLANNING & OPTIMIZATION MANAGER (Code: M-RNP/ RNO)

- At least 5 to 7 years of in CMTS technology (AMPS, GSM, CDMA)
- Experience in foreign networks would be an advantage
- With good supervisory/ management skills
- Aggressive, flexible, dynamic, and with good communication and interpersonal skills
- Will also be responsible for capacity, coverage and quality planning

PURCHASING MANAGER (Code: M-PUR)

- Directs execution of purchasing strategies and policies
- Responsible for sourcing decisions including but not limited to overseas sourcing
- Initiates and oversees cost reduction/ avoidance efforts
- Maintains contacts/ network with key suppliers
- Excellent analytical and decision making abilities; flexible, hardworking, and creative
- With thorough knowledge of import procedures and payment methods
- Graduate of Management, Engineering or any related course
- At least 3 years related experience in the same capacity
- Experience in ERP (SAP R/3 Procurement Module) would be an advantage

REVENUE ASSURANCE ANALYST (Code: M-RAA)

- Experience in the review and evaluation of systems, internal controls, processes and operations in a computerized environment
- Possesses a good understanding of fixed and/or mobile telecommunications technology including switches, billing systems, activation systems
- With at least 4 years experience in auditing and / or business risk management
- Results-oriented, diligent and committed to the pursuit of excellence
- With strong process review, risk and data analysis skills
- Excellent communication, facilitation and presentation skills
- Preferably with Certification on Information Systems/ Internal Auditing or Control Self Assessment
- Knowledge in computer applications including spreadsheets, database word processing, and presentation software

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE ADMINISTRATOR (Code: MCG-NQ)

- Ensures data integrity (correctness, completeness) of measurements and statistics received from the network; Ensures that data are received on time
- Develops programs that will enhance performance monitoring of the network
- Maintains the system handling the performance monitoring in network quality
- Experience in handling Network Management System (NMS/OSS) and Performance Management System (Metrica/ Traffica) would be an advantage
- With working knowledge/ skills on Unix OS, SQL, Oracle, MS Access, Visual Basic, Web Programming
- With superior knowledge of basic mathematics and statistical principles
- Able to analyze and interpret complex data and prepare technical reports and graphs
- Preferably with experience in systems operation in telecommunications
- Graduate of BS Math or Statistics with IT knowledge/ background

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR (Code: WHSE)

- Graduate of any five-year course, preferably IE, ECE, CoE, EE
- With 3-5 yrs of Supervisory experience in warehousing, preferably in Telecoms Company
- With Supervisory and Management Skills training attended
- Computer Literate-Microsoft Office, knowledge in SAP is an advantage
- Willing to travel in Visayas and Mindanao Warehouses

Interested applicants are requested to submit their Letter of Application and Resume with 2x2 picture:
(Please indicate the **Job Code**)

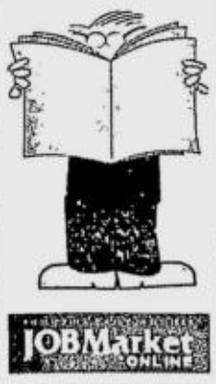
Strategic Staffing Services

3/F Globe Telecom Plaza
Pioneer cor. Madison Streets, Mandaluyong City 1552

or E-mail address:
careers@globetel.com.ph

Deadline for submission is on July 31, 2001

Where you find the best.



JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

Cosmos

G. COSMOS PHILS., INC.

Is in need of:

MARKETING CONSULTANT

- 21 to 30 years. old
- Must be a graduate of a 4 year Business related course
- Assertive, Fluent in English and Tagalog
- Has pleasing personality

Please send your resumes, with 2 X 2 photo at the given address.
For inquiries pls. call : 807-3910

Qualified applicants shall be notified immediately after the selection process

Previous applicants need not apply

G. COSMOS PHILS., INC.
9th Floor Philamlife Building Acacia Avenue, Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Rx MEDICard

MEDICard PHILS INC.

One of the country's leading HMO and the first HMO to be awarded ISO 9002 is looking for assertive, dynamic and energetic individuals to fill up the following vacancies:

NURSES

Male or Female, At least 5'7" for males and 5'3" for females. Must be a registered nurse;
With at least 6 months to 1 year experience in a hospital or HMO setting;
With pleasing personality and above-average communication skills;
Preferably residents of Libis, Pasig, Cainta, Quezon City, Makati, Parañaque.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

Male, At least 5'6" in height, Single;
Graduate of BS Marketing or any Medical Course;
With above-average written and oral communication skills, Must be computer literate.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

Graduate of BS Nursing or any Medical Course;
Must be able to relate well with all levels of the organization;
Must be computer literate and can work with minimum supervision;
Willing to be assigned in Carmona, Cavite.

Qualified and interested applicants are requested to apply personally. Bring resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 photo at: **MEDICard Philippines, Inc.**: Human Resources Department
8/F Sagittarius Building, H.V. Dela Costa Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City
or e-mail us at rsalmon@medicardphils.com

(Previous applicants need not apply)

MANAGERIAL

"People are the driving force behind success."

Indeed, it is the expertise, capabilities and experience of people that propels a company to success. At Zurich Philippines, every individual counts. And we are inviting highly motivated individuals who wants to succeed and be part of our growth.

Career Financial Consultants and Business Development Managers are the kind of experts that we are looking for.

If you are:

- between 25 to 40 years old;
- with relevant network of clients;
- highly competitive & loves to take on a challenge;
- committed, trainable and possess a positive attitude;
- success - driven and wants to grow personally and financially.

Then you are most welcome to join our team.

Please send or fax your resume in any of our Business Development Centers nearest you. You may also call or drop by to set an appointment with us.

Our BDCs are located at the following addresses:

MAKATI
24/F Citibank Tower
Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Tel. (632) 750-0378/8481990
Fax (632) 752-3239

CABANATUAN
G/F Ortiz Bldg., Maharlika Road
cor. Gabaldon Ext. Cabanatuan City
Tel. (044) 463-4775
Fax (044) 463-4782

ORTIGAS
24/F Citibank Tower
Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
Tel. (632) 750-0378/8481990
Fax (632) 752-3239

TARLAC
Unit 2 Felsenron Bldg. McArthur
Highway, San Roque, Tarlac City
Tel (045) 800-0618
Fax (045) 982-5484

ILOILO
G/F Esperanza Bldg.,
Gen. Luna St., Iloilo City
Tel. (033) 336-2490
Fax (033) 336-2244

CEBU
G/F Golden Peak Tower, Gorordo
cor. Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. (032) 233-7611
Fax (032) 233-7613

DAVAO
107 Goldwin Bldg., Elpidio
Quirino Avenue, Davao City
Tel. (082) 227-6370
Fax (082) 227-6373

GENERAL SANTOS
G/F Deling's Bldg.,J. Catolico
Ave., General Santos City
Tel. (083) 301- 8487
Fax (083) 301-0305

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EduQuest, Inc.

WE ARE A KNOWLEDGE COMPANY
searching for:

A. INSTRUCTION SPECIALISTS

in the areas of:

ENGLISH, MATH, SCIENCE and COMPUTER LITERACY

- Preferably with experience in teaching, training and curriculum development

B. MARKETING OFFICERS

- Preferably with experience in networking with the Academic market

The above positions will also require the following qualifications:

- Graduate of a 4-year course
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
- Knowledgeable in the use of basic computer productivity tools
- Willing to travel

Above-industry compensation package
an a progressive career await successful candidates.

Please submit your comprehensive resumé,
transcript of records, and recent 2x2 photo to:

Ms. Lavinia M. Ebarle
Operations Manager
EduQuest Inc., 5F Asia Pacific College
3 Humabon Place, Magallanes Village, Makati City
e-mail: eqjobs@mail.apc.edu.ph
Tele Fax: 853-0524 loc. 116
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C.L. FLOWERS AND SONS, an established family owned business, engaged in the manufacture of concrete blocks, concrete forms and styrofoam products and owner of FADS Security which mans the screening checkpoint is in need of:

(2) FEMALE SECURITY OFFICERS

Applicants must be fluent in English, be able to man and supervise a shift, must have effective communication skills and good interpersonal relations. Must be able to type incident reports and must have 2 years experience in this field. Hiring rates and benefits are highly competitive.

Please send resumé with picture to:

Box Code: CLF400
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
5/F, Building B, SM Megamall
EDSA, Mandaluyong City
or
E-mail to:
Cflowers@candw.ky<mailto: cflowers@candyw.ky>

Habitat for Humanity Philippines Foundation, Inc.

We are a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry affiliated with Habitat for Humanity International. We are currently looking for experienced and qualified candidates with a sense of mission for the position:

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

(Code: RDD)

to provide over-all direction and management of resource development programs and activities by conceptualizing, implementing and evaluating them towards the attainment of the organization's goals.

Qualifications:

- Must have a strong background experience in fund-raising, and at least 5 years progressive experience in a managerial position in marketing, sales, or communications, preferably in a non-profit organization.
- Very strong PR and extensive networks with corporations, foundations or churches, willing and able to travel and meet people from all walks of life.
- Degree in Management, Marketing or Communications, preferably with graduate studies, between the ages of 35-45 years old.

Qualified candidates may send by **July 31** their application with an updated and complete resumé to:

The Human Resources Manager
2102 Jollibee Plaza Building
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, 1605 Pasig City
(Please indicate CODE)
E-mail: HR@habitat.org.ph

A MULTINATIONAL HOLDING company engaged in investments is currently seeking qualified applicants to fill up the position of:

CUSTOMER RELATIONS OFFICER

Qualifications:

- Male or Female, 25 to 45 years old
- Knowledgeable in foreign exchange, stocks, treasury or commodity trading an advantage
- Established affiliation with high net worth individuals and institutions
- Ability to speak Chinese an advantage

Kindly forward your application letter, resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

The Marketing Manager
Unit 907B West Tower, Phil. Stock Exchange Building,
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City 1600
Email: 911@edsamail.com.ph

We will only reply to qualified applicants.

TAMBUNTING FINANCIAL SERVICES

We are looking for

PERSONAL FINANCIAL ADVISERS

- Male or Female
- Graduate of any 4-year course (New Graduates are welcome to apply)
- Proficient in oral & written communication skills
- A team player, results-oriented, enthusiastic and with good interpersonal skills
- Must have entrepreneurial skills
- Proficient in the use of MS office & Access
- Willing to do work outside the office
- Willing to undergo training & licensing examination
- Compensation will depend on performance

Interested applicants are invited to apply personally on **July 24 & 26, 2001** from 9:30 to 4 PM. Pls. come in appropriate business attire:

2/F San Antonio Bldg. 7464 Bagtikan St.
San Antonio Village, Makati City
Tels. # 896-32-44 / 46

CITYSTATE INSURANCE, PHILIPPINES

MARINE UNDERWRITING MANAGER

This is a joint venture company with the Citystate Group in Singapore. We are looking for a Marine Insurance Specialist to head our newly set-up Marine Underwriting Department. Only qualified and experienced insurance practitioners need apply.

Salary is negotiable with attractive fringe benefits. Only short-listed applicants will be called for interview.

Please send resumé with your recent photographs to:

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
Second Floor Citystate Centre
709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City
Tel. No. 637-1823

EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITY!!!

A world leader in providing life and non-life insurance services is currently in need of:

Twenty (20) Financial Consultants

For its ***Alabang-Sardonyx*** branch office. Applicants must be:

- 25-35 years old
- A graduate of a reputable college/university
- Hardworking and ambitious
- Willing to undergo extensive training

To the successful applicants, we guarantee **generous commission, incentives, bonuses, plus a chance to travel abroad!!!**

Mail or hand carry your comprehensive resumé to:

2/F Common Goal Tower
cor. Finance and Industry Streets
Madrigal Business Center, Ayala Alabang
Tel.: (02) 772-1786 locals 121/122

You may also send resumé via e-mail to:
generalpinoysound@yahoo.com

We are one of the new players in the **Leasing and Finance Industry** and we are looking for highly motivated, competent and dynamic persons to manage and grow its existing portfolio:

HEAD, MARKETING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

Directs marketing and business development strategies, manages and grow commercial loan accounts and maintains good quality portfolio thereof.

ACCOUNT OFFICERS

Establishes direct relationship for new commercial loan accounts through client calls.

*Interested applicants are requested to submit their resumé with recent 2x2 photo on or before **August 1, 2001** to:*

P.O. Box 13914, Ortigas Center Post Office,
Ortigas Center 1605, Pasig City
Email: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: AUB)

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Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resumé with photo and transcript of records to: (Code: _____)
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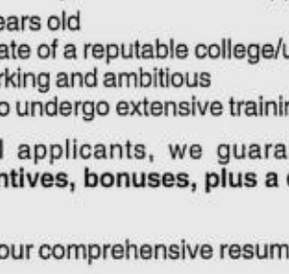

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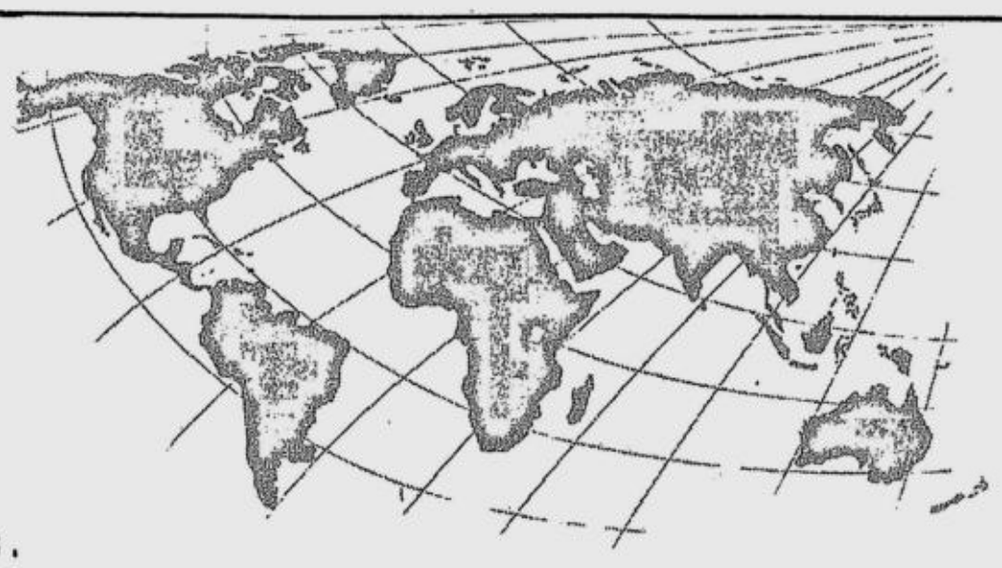

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CSR-NEW ACCOUNTS
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TRUST MARKETING OFFICER
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SUPPORT GROUPS
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES / TRAINEES
TRAINING OFFICER
RISK MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST
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ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
HUMAN RESOURCES GROUP
10/F GLOBALBANK CENTRE
777 PASEO DE ROXAS CORNER SEDENO STREETS
MAKATI CITY 1200
OR EMAIL: lmmf@globalbank.ph
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*NON-UNIVERSAL BANK

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The ideal candidate must possess the following:
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** We are offering an attractive compensation package to the qualified applicant.*

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A subsidiary of the Power and Industrial Systems Division of HITACHI LTD., Japan engaged in the production and sale of large industrial chillers and compressors, invites applicants for the position of :

CADET ENGINEER

The successful candidates will be assigned to our Design / CAE Section and will be responsible for creating design calculations using high-end CAE tools and techniques.

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Male or Female, not more than 25 years of age;
- BSME graduate
- Knowledge in AUTOCAD is an advantage
- Must be able to interpret technical drawings
- In-depth knowledge of thermodynamics, fluid mechanics And strength of materials.

Interested applicants are requested to apply in person on July 27, 2001. (Friday) or on August 3, 2001 (Friday) at 9 a.m. Please bring your bio-data with recent photo and transcript of records.

HITACHI INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY PHILS.CORP(HIMAP)
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First Cavite Industrial Estate, Brgy. Langkaan I
Dasmariñas, Cavite

WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?

If you have a passion for food and cooking, if you are service-oriented and eager to learn, do read on...

Gourdo's is a brand new company, totally committed to quality food products and great service. We are also extremely committed to our employees.

Gourdo's is a fun place, out-front and behind the counter. With a fresh, new outlook, it's a company you'll really enjoy working for.

We have several oppotunities in our exciting, new Makati City store, providing the perfect environment for you to channel your skills and boundless enthusiasm.

Store Manager
Previous experience in a management role and/or in retail operations is required. Graduate of a 4-year college course, at least 24 years of age, confident and articulate. You will be a communicator and motivator, responsible for our in-store staff; training; maintaining a high level of customer service; meeting sales targets; stock control and overall store aesthetics i.e. visual merchandising, cleanliness, etc.

Sales Team
As a member of the sales team, you will be an indispensable ingredient to the success of this store. You will be interacting with our customers daily, sharing with them your knowledge and helping them make informed purchasing decisions. You must be a good listener, taking 'on board' customer queries and suggestions that may affect the way we run our marketing and promotional activities. Food service or retail experience is a plus although not mandatory. College-degree holders 21 to 30 years of age preferred.

Buyers
Open-mindedness, creativity and a sense of adventure as well as a penchant for observation, research and analysis are required for this job. You will be in charge of merchandise selection, pricing and presentation, working closely with marketing. Graduate of a 4-year college course. Prior experience in buying or retail/food service is a definite plus.

Visual Merchandisers, Illustrators & Writers
We need artists who have their own distinctive style. You will be working with us on our: displays; banners; newsletters; catalogues; packaging; posters etc. We may work with you full-time or on a per-project basis. We need you to be innovative as well as flexible and reliable. Please send us a sample of your work with your resume.

Systems Auditor
At least one year experience in controls review in a computerized accounting environment is required. You must have a degree in Accountancy and must not be more than 25 years of age. You must also be analytical and hardworking.

Kitchen & Service Staff

Chef de Partie
Between 25-30 years old, at least 3 years experience in a continental café or restaurant kitchen, college degree a plus. Experience in costing, purchasing and inventory management. Willingness to work long/late hours. Responsible and motivated. Neat presentation required.

Cooks
Between 20-30 years old, at least 6 months experience in kitchen work, college degree a plus. Willing to learn and adopt high standards. Neat presentation required.

Stewards-Kitchen Helpers
Between 20-25 years old, high school graduate, experience in restaurant work preferred. Willing to work long/late hours. Hard-working and willing to learn. Neat presentation required.

Bartenders, Cashiers, Waiters
Between 20-30 years old, no experience necessary, college degree a plus. Willing to work long/late hours. Good communication skills and excellent presentation required.

Gourdo's
specialty food and cookware

If you have a positive, pro-active approach, which will help us establish our brand and offer an exceptional shopping experience for our customers, then send your resume without delay to **Gourdo's, Inc., P.O. Box 3074 Manila 1070 Philippines.** Please do not forget to indicate the position you are interested in. We will be calling all qualified applicants for interview.

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Visit us at
www.jobmarketonline.com

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TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

CARGO DATA EXCHANGE CENTER, INC.

Our Company is in immediate need for high-caliber professionals to fill-in the following positions:

• Web Designer/Analyst

- At least 3 years experience.
- Designed and developed static web pages using HTML, Macromedia Flash, Javascript, VBScript.
- Designed and developed dynamic web pages using ASP, JSP or PHP.
- Experience with Microsoft Internet Information Server or other webservers.
- Has artistic and creative imagination.

• Senior Analyst/Programmer

- At least 3 years experience.
- Designed and developed using Visual Basic on SQL Server or Oracle database.
- Designed and developed application databases.
- Experience with object oriented analysis and design. (Plus)
- Designed and developed COM, COM+, DCOM, ActiveX and a like. (Plus)
- Experience with Unified Modeling Language. (Plus)
- Experience with Visual Modeler. (Plus)
- Experience with Microsoft Transaction Server. (Plus)

• Junior Programmer

- At least 2 years programming experience.
- Using Visual Basic 6, Java, Visual C++, Power Builder and others
- Experience with other programming languages is also welcome.
- Experience with SQL Server 7 or Oracle 81.
- Experience with object oriented programming. (Plus)

Interested applicants may come for an interview on Monday or Tuesday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at **1903-B East Tower, Tektite Building, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City**. Look for **Ms. Rona**. Please bring: an updated resumé/CV and 2x2 picture. You can call for inquiries at tel. nos.: 638-9415 to 19 or E-mail at: **hrd@cdec.com.ph**.

Telecommunications call center company in Ortigas Center serving prime companies in the United States

WEB DEVELOPERS

- Experience in developing Web applications (fronts-end and server side) using HTML, DHTML, ASP, Visual Basic, Java
- Proficient with softwares like: Adobe Photoshop and Dreamweaver
- Minimum of 2 years relevant experience
- Ability to work with a team

CALL CENTER AGENTS

- Male or Female, 20-27 years old
- College graduate; preferably Mass Communication, English,Linguistics or Marketing
- High Level of English communication skills (to interact with US clients)
- Computer literate
- Willing to work on shifts
- Experience in tele-selling/sales an advantage

NETWORK OPERATIONS ENGINEER

- College graduate, preferably BS Electronics & Communications Engineering
- With at least 2 years experience in the Telco industry (Switch Operations & Maintenance)
- Hardware/ Software support
- Willing to work on shifts

We offer above-industry compensation, generous benefit packages and career leverage through training and development. Qualified and interested applicants are requested to send their resume with recent photo to:
P.O. BOX 13906 Ortigas Center, Pasig City Or E-mail to:
jobs_occ@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

A nongovernmental organization engaged in training & policy research is seeking a highly qualified & committed professional responsible for:

- research, training design & implementation
- developing project proposals, fund raising & preparing reports
- program supervision; and
- liaising with funding agencies, partners and networks

Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in social sciences
- With strong orientation/exposure on women's rights, governance & human rights issues
- Strong analytical skills & demonstrated ability to write well
- Able to work effectively in a small NGO & excellent networking skills
- Strong organizational & planning skills with demonstrated ability to follow through

Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Closing date for applications is **August 06, 2001**. Only short listed candidates will be notified. **Please send letter (including expected salary) and resumé, preferably by email to:**

The Executive Director
THE CENTER FOR LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT (CLD)
Suite 1703 Medical Plaza Ortigas,
San Miguel Ave., Pasig City 1600
Tel. (632) 687-2083 Fax (632) 687-2082
E-mail: cld@cld.org

URGENT RECRUITMENT

PUBLIC RELATIONS WRITER/OFFICER

for the office of a senior legislator

Qualifications/Requirements:

- Preferably a lady with pleasing personality and driven to excel
- Superb writing credentials
- Self-starter and must thrive under reasonable work pressure
- Solid and extensive grasp of issues involving current events

Compensation/Benefits:

- Excellent base pay
- Bonuses, COLA, clothing and medical allowances, rice subsidy, social security, etc.
- The opportunity to advance in a PR career

Send your application letter, detailed resumé, 2" x 2" photo & work samples not later than July 31 to:

MS. HELEN TRIÑANES
Unit 206 2/F AJ Condominium
No. 149 Ermin Garcia Ave.
Cubao, Quezon City 1109

Pre-qualified applicants will be asked to take spot writing tests.

W A N T E D

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- College graduate in Bio Chemistry, Chemistry, Medical Technology, Chemical Engineering, Food Technology
- Enjoys travelling and good work ethics
- To sell and promote laboratory instruments and supplies (with possible training abroad)

LABORATORY INSTRUMENT ENGINEER

- Graduate in Electronics and Communications Engineering
- Computer literate

Please bring your photo and bio-data with transcript of records to:

PHILAB INDUSTRIES, INC.
7487 Bagtikan Street, San Antonio Village, Makati City
Telephone: 890-8277, 896-6658

PILAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

A leading real estate developer and builder is in need of professionals to further intensify their operations with the following qualifications:

LICENSED DESIGN ARCHITECT

- Male/Female, 25-30 years old
- Must have experience in Residential & Commercial Building Design and Real Estate Development Projects
- Computer literate (CAD, Excel, MS Word, etc.)
- Resident of Las Piñas/Parañaque/Muntinlupa/Bacoor
- Should be able to work well with others in a team-concept environment, hardworking and with strong personality
- Must have excellent communication skills both oral and written
- Knows how to drive and with valid driver's license.

Qualified candidates are requested to mail their comprehensive resumé, transcript of records, certifications, and recent 2x2 photo to:

Human Resources Section
Pilar Development Corporation
PDC Commercial Centre, Pilar Road cor. Rose Avenue
Pilar Village, Las Piñas City 1750

GENERAL

Stores Specialists, Inc. Urgently needs...

TRAVEL COORDINATOR (TC-001)
- Female, 28-30 years old, mature
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With at least 1 year experience in handling travel documents
- With good communication skills

SECRETARY (S-001)
- Female, 21-25 years old
- College graduate, preferably in the Social Sciences
- No work experience required
- Computer literate
- With excellent communication skills

ELECTRICIAN (E-001)
- Male, at least 25-28 years old
- Graduate of Electrical Engineering
- Must have worked as an Electrician or Maintenance Staff for at least 2 years
- Must have skills in trouble shooting of different kinds of office equipment
- Willing to work beyond working hours

NURSE (N-001)
- Female, Nursing graduate, licensed
- At least 21-25 years old
- Preferably with experience
- Computer literate
- Willing to be assigned in Alabang

DISPLAY ARTISTS (DA-001)
- Female/Male, not over 30 years old
- Preferably Interior Design graduate
- With creative skills in drawing, lettering, silk screening, flower arranging, etc.
- Willing to work beyond working hours

BEAUTY THERAPISTS (BT-001)
- Female/Male between 21-25 years old
- 5'2" and above in height
- With pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Graduate of Nursing or Physical Therapy
- With good communication skills
- Preferably near Alabang area

SALES ASSOCIATES (SA-001)
- Male/Female, between 21-28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with clear complexion
- Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Good in oral communication skills

BEAUTY CONSULTANTS (BC-001)
- Female, between 21-28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

MAKE-UP ARTIST (MA-001)
- Male/Female/Gay, between 21-30 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

OPERATIONS STAFF/DRIVER (OS/D-001)
- Male, not over 35 years old
- With at least two (2) years professional Driver's license
- Knowledge in trouble shooting/auto-mechanics is an advantage

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC., Personnel Department, 4th floor Midland Buendia Bldg., 403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. Please indicate position codes.

A progressive manufacturer of jeans & shirts Invites you to join their team.

MARKETING SERVICES ASSISTANT
- ⇒ Male or Female, age not over 25 years old
- ⇒ a graduate of any business course
- ⇒ Knowledgeable in Advertising and Promotion and Consumer Research studies
- ⇒ Can able to conduct and facilitate focused group discussion
- ⇒ Good in oral and written communication
- ⇒ must be computer literate

IE / WASHING COORDINATOR
- ⇒ Male , age not over 30 years old
- ⇒ With 1 year experience in Production settings
- ⇒ BS Industrial & Chemical Engineering graduate
- ⇒ computer literate
- ⇒ willing to do field works
- ⇒ Driving skill is an advantage (optional)

ACCOUNT MANAGER
- ⇒ Male, age not over 30 years old
- ⇒ Graduate of any business course
- ⇒ Experience in managerial experience in selling
- ⇒ consumer products, willing to go on provincial trips
- ⇒ Good in oral & written communication
- ⇒ Capable of motivating personnel
- ⇒ Computer literate, Aggressive, honest & hardworking

ACCOUNTANT / ACCOUNTING STAFF
- ⇒ Male / Female, age not over 30 years old
- ⇒ BSC Accounting graduate
- ⇒ At least 1 year experience
- ⇒ Familiar with computerized accounting systems
- ⇒ Able to analyze transactions
- ⇒ Attentive to details and results oriented
- ⇒ Able to complete assignments on time
- ⇒ Willing to render overtime & self motivated

Send your Resume, Transcript of Records & 2x2 latest ID photo to :Einsco Company c/o HRD -Marssha Tower 1318 Franco cor.Moriones Sts. Tondo, Mla. or call at tel. Nos. 2550351 to 60. Or e mail us at einsco@netasia.net

---

ACCOUNTANT & OFFICE CLERK

- FEMALE WITH PLEASING PERSONALITY
- 20 to 24 YEARS OLD
- SINGLE
- COLLEGE GRADUATE & COMPUTER LITERATE
- FLUENT IN ENGLISH BOTH ORAL & WRITTEN

CALL 886-08-01 TO 08, LOOK FOR MONET

A fast growing food manufacturing company is in need of the following personnels:

2 Supervisor Trainees for production line (Male)

Qualifications:
- College graduate (preferably Industrial Engineer but not necessary)
- 21 to 25 years old
- Good scholastic records
- Must be responsible, diligent and have good moral character
- Can communicate well in English and Tagalog
- Must have knowledge in making production report and analysis
- Willing to stay-in and work in night-shifts
- Computer literate (an advantage)

2 Maintenance Technicians (Male)

Qualifications:
- At least 2 years experience in maintaining food machines and boilers
- College level, at least 25 to 30 years old
- Must know how to make maintenance report
- Must also know how to use the following/operate the following: welding machine, oxy-acetylene equipment or any related machines
- Some knowledge in minor electricals and carpentry is an advantage
- Willing to stay-in and work in night-shifts

Qualified applicants should bring and complete the following requirements:
- Resumé with 2 color pictures 2x2 (white background)
- Birth certificate, health certificate, NBI clearance (preferred)
- Transcript of records

Please appear for interview with the specified dates:
- Supervisor trainee - July 24, 2001, 10:00 – 12:00 noon only
- Maintenance technician – July 28, 2001, 10:00 - 12:00 noon only

Come in office attire and follow the specified date and time at:

739 G. C.M. Recto, Tondo, Manila
(Equitable Bank Bldg., Riverside)

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SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

July 22, 2001

Volume [illegible]

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The President's Voice

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DELIGHTFUL CHILD STARS

Such a delightful thing it was to find out that last Sunday's mag (**SIM**, 17 June 2001) featured former child stars! As someone who greatly appreciates the value of these children's contribution to our national culture, I was overjoyed to see Aiza, Niño Muhlach and RR Herrera all in one issue. However, I must say that I was rather disappointed with how you handled the issue. So many things could have been covered that weren't touched upon. There were hardly any references to other major child stars such as Matet, LA Lopez, Atong, Antoinette Taus and Lady Lee. And it would be absolutely interesting to find out whatever became of kids like Jackstone, Harlene Bautista and Kathleen Go Quieng. A follow-up, perhaps?

QUARK HENARES
blood@pworld.net.ph

FROM SENATOR BARBERS

May I express my esteemed appreciation for the cover story that appeared in the Sunday Inquirer Magazine dated June 24, 2001?

It is indeed an opportunity for me to enucleate on reasons for my absence in the Senate for several months, particularly during the historical impeachment proceedings of former President Joseph E. Estrada. The article written by Stella Ruth O. Gonzales explicitly detailed what truly transpired during those critical days when I realized the importance of the life God leased to us. Ms Gonzales truly captured the miracles that were to change my life. Allow me this opportunity to likewise extend my gratitude to your photographer, Erik Arazas.

Rest assured that I will fulfill my promise to give full public service to the nation in the spirit of God-centered politics.

SEN. ROBERT Z. BARBERS

MEHAN COVERAGE

Thank you for your continued coverage of the Mehan Garden controversy (**SIM**, 1 July 2001). I read with great interest your continued coverage of the issues behind Mehan Garden in your Sunday and weekday issues. Truly, if we can only stop the destruction of an important landmark in Manila, your paper will have done a pretty good job.

I cannot understand why Mayor Atienza insists on construction. What we need is a sustained campaign for a habitable metropolis where our children can breathe clean air and appreciate the close interrelatedness of flora and fauna in the midst of a wide-scale destruction of our natural habitat.

We hope that you continue covering Mehan and save us from an ecological disaster. Our kudos for your ongoing concern.

DODONG BATOCTOY
dodongb@edsamail.com.ph

Sunday Inquirer Magazine
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July 22, 2001
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See Mommy Write

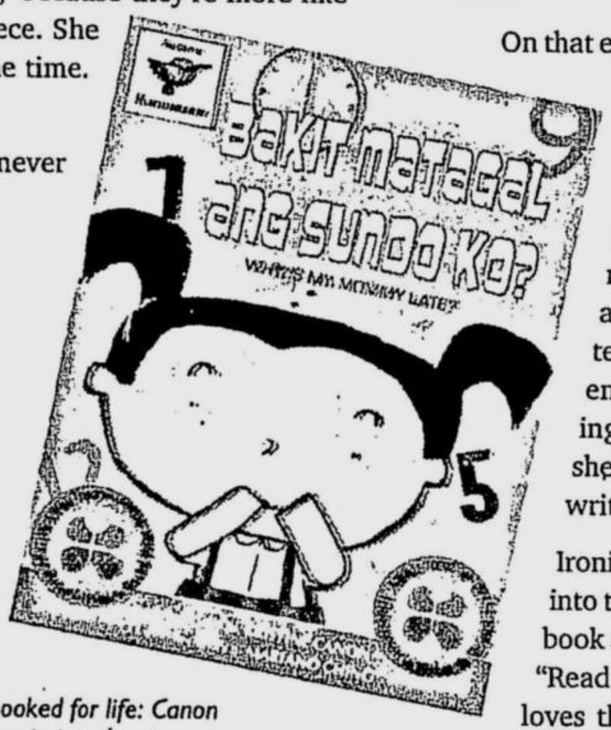
KRISTINE CANON LOVES KIDS. FOR THE PRETTY, GRACEFUL 26-YEAR-OLD PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE WORKING WITH CHILDREN. "WHERE ELSE DO YOU GET A JOB LIKE THIS, WHERE YOU GET PAID TO BE A MOM?" SHE SMILES, EYES ALL ALIGHT.

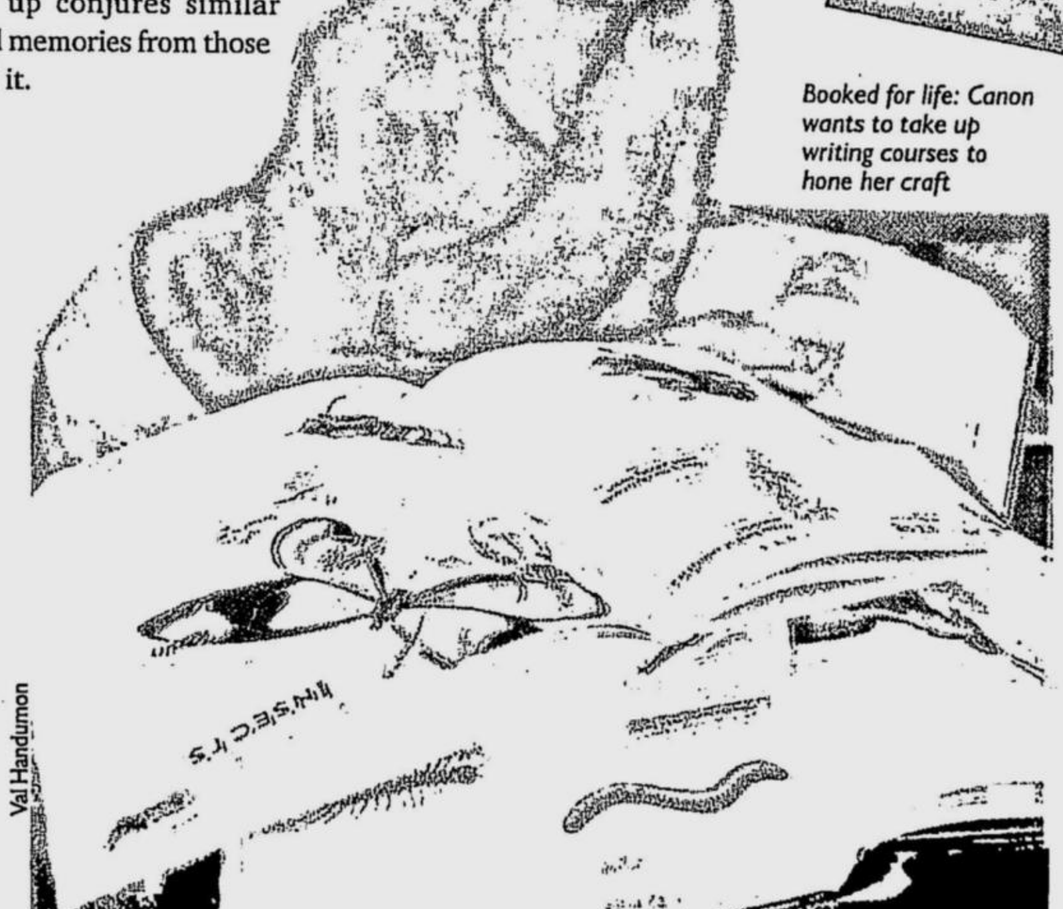
Working and caring for children has in a way defined life for Kristine, now married for almost two years to sales manager Bart Canon. Already earning a living teaching young kids and then just about to give birth to her first child, Kristine, on a whim, joined the competition for the Philippine Board on Books for Young People (PBBY)-Salanga Writer's Prize – and won it.

Frances Kristine Villegas Canon was initially supposed to take medicine, but eventually wound up taking Family Life and Child Development at the University of the Philippines. "It was a whole new ball game then, and I forgot about medicine." She has been working as a pre-school teacher since she graduated in 1997. Today, she's the administrator of the STI Pre-school in Mandaluyong City and is a consultant for another pre-school in Merville, Parañaque.

It was in the third quarter of 2000 when Kristine, just beginning her period of pregnancy, read in the newspaper about the PBBY contest. Though she had been writing since high school, she never devoted herself to it. "I wouldn't exactly call the others things I've written 'stories,' because they're more like accidents," she laughs. "I got the idea for the story from talking to my niece. She was telling me how long her mom, my sister, took before fetching her one time. She wasn't used to that, and my story started that way."

Her interest blooming, she took the leap. "I've always wanted to write, but never did I think I would do it seriously or professionally. I took a shot because I thought, I'm pregnant, I have time, I have nothing else to do." The story, titled "*Bakit Matagal Ang Sundo Ko*?," took her about a month to finish. She had to consult her friends about her Filipino because, she laughs, "I wanted to write something readable and I didn't want the judges making jokes about my story." Her lyrical tale of a girl worrying and wondering about why her mother was taking so long to pick her up conjures similar childhood memories from those who read it.





Booked for life: Canon wants to take up writing courses to hone her craft

Val Handumon

While carrying one baby inside her, Kristine was also laboring to create another through her writing. Three months pregnant, Kristine submitted her finished story in August last year and literally forgot all about it – until the call came, in December, almost at the end of the year.

It was Ani Almario, Adarna House's product development officer, calling to tell her she had won the PBBY tilt. Truth be told, the very pregnant Kristine had asked, "What contest?" Then she remembered — and was overjoyed. "I was really surprised." In the ensuing months, Kristine's world was blessed with the arrival of her baby boy Nathan, now six months, a momentous occasion in the life of anyone devoted to children.

Now, her story is a book illustrated by award-winning artist Mariano Ching, now available from Adarna. Almario says that Kristine is special among writers because "she's open to a lot of new experiences, she's not yet jaded and is very receptive to other people's suggestions." Additionally, Almario says that Kristine's prospects for writing are bright because "she writes about experiences many people can identify with."

On that end, Kristine now wants to write for children even more. "I want to be more serious about it." She is now working towards her Master's Degree in Reading Education, but also plans to take up writing courses to hone her craft. "That's what I want to do because that's what I lack." There is a refreshing humility in Kristine's earnest hopes to be a writer. She sees writing for children as yet another extension of her work with kids, as a teacher and as a mom. "It's more of bringing my experience of working with kids, putting it in writing and sharing it with the rest of the world." She emphasizes that she's now really serious about writing for kids, maybe even writing more books.

Ironically, Kristine didn't grow up around books. "I was more into toys and games." It was when she got hold of a children's book as a teacher that she had her jack-in-the-box epiphany. "Reading that book to the kids —that got me started." She loves the work of Eric Carle and Maurice Sendak. Her all-time favorite is E.B. White's "Charlotte's Web." "I love the illustrations in children's books," she says, and she only has superlative words for the art of her book's illustrator, Ching. "He was able to bring the images out the way I imagined them."

Kristine has been reading to Nathan since she was pregnant. And now she's happy to be able to write stories for him. "Wow, how can it happen twice? You create two very precious things. There's the most important one, the baby, and the other one, the story, something I want to carry with me for the rest of my days."

For some writers, creating through words is a lifelong passion nurtured from the very beginning. For other, it comes in a momentary flash, a look at a newspaper, an unexpected blessing. For Kristine Canon, writer, teacher and mother, everything fell into place at the right time: "I took up family life, I got into teaching, got married, became a mom — it's really God's plan, with all these being pieces of a puzzle. I just want to keep working on that puzzle."

People for the Planet

Green Healer

"The doctor of the future will give no medicine but will interest his patient in the care of the human frame, in diet and in the cause and prevention of disease."

– Thomas A. Edison

THIS SAYING HANGS FRAMED ON THE DOOR LEADING TO RENE BUNYI'S 20-SQUARE METER OFFICE AT THE WEST GATE ARCADE OF BROADWAY CENTRUM IN QUEZON CITY. TRUE TO THIS MOTTO, HE HEALS PATIENTS WITH FRESH VEGETABLES THAT CAN BE PICKED IN ONE'S GARDEN OR BOUGHT IN THE LOCAL MARKET.

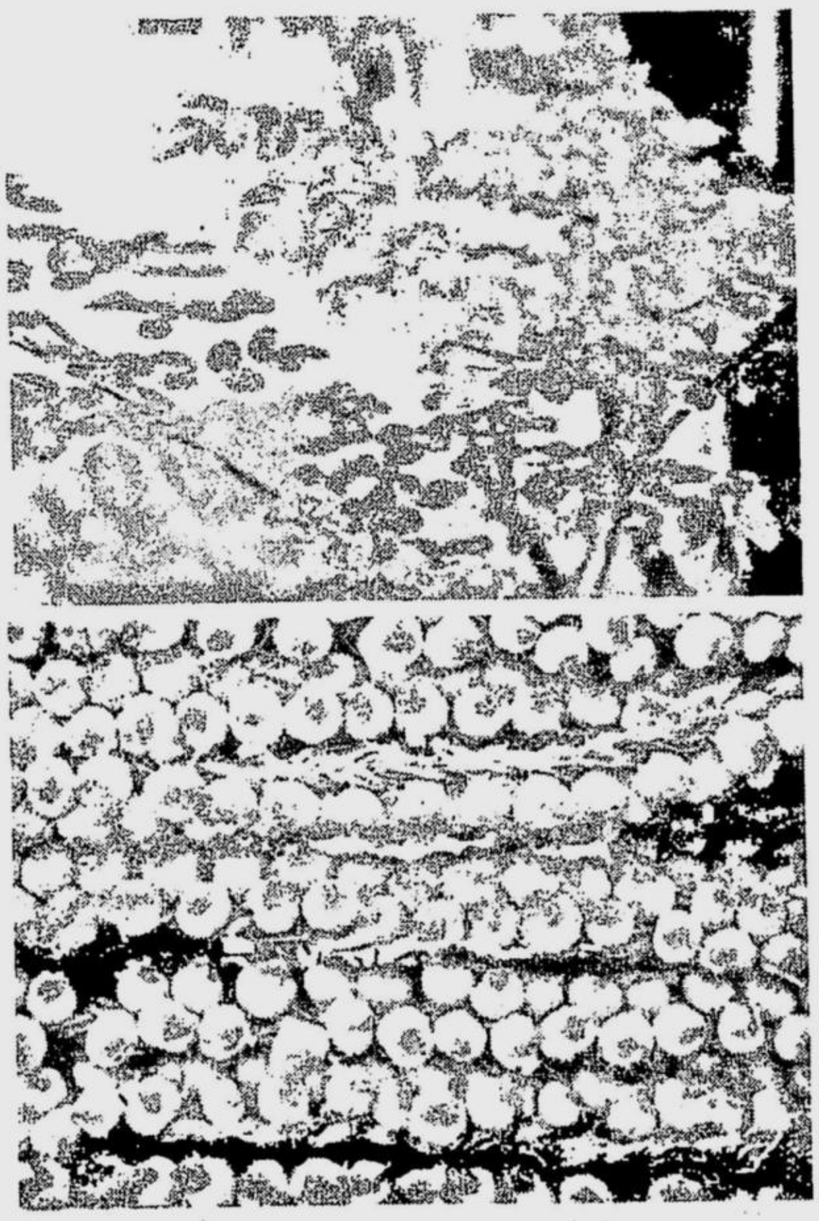
This 46-year-old father of two and husband of a bookkeeper tirelessly proclaims in his daily early morning radio program *"Umaga na Kabayan"* (DWSS) that one can have good health simply by changing one's eating habits and lifestyle. Bunyi prescribes fresh vegetables to be eaten raw and Filipino dishes you usually cook for your family. Yes, raw, as in vegetable salads and Filipino dishes such as *nilaga* or *tinola*. And the results are unquestioningly effective.

Known as Brother Brandy to his patients (his grandfather's drinking buddies got the name from the old man's favorite libation), he got into this healing profession by accident. He has this story to tell.

While working for five years in Japan with the personnel department of a leading tire company, Bunyi's immune system was weakened by constant exposure to chemicals, until one day he found himself with a nose that wouldn't stop bleeding. He was rushed to Dokyo Byoen Hospital and was immediately pronounced dead on arrival due to chemical poisoning. Japanese doctors tried to revive him for 45 minutes. Still he was unresponsive. Another doctor who would not give him up tried to revive him again for four minutes, which spelled the difference, as Bunyi was miraculously revived. Doctors declared that the absence of oxygen in his brain for such a long time would surely make him a vegetable for life.

A co-worker of his, a native of Ghana, Africa, brought him to a Jamaican traditional medicine practitioner named Daniel Babu. This Jamaican picked about two tablespoonfuls of young grass from his herbal garden, washed it and asked Bunyi to chew it. After a few minutes, he felt better, and was up and about after a few more days of drinking tea concocted from the same grass.

That was a major turning point in his life. Thinking of his wife and children back home, Bunyi vowed to study, research and learn everything he could to be able to spread the word about how good it is to live healthy, and how precious life is. Today, Bunyi can peer into your eyes and read your health history, and determine what your illnesses are. Asked about the ailments he has so far handled, he claims that they range from the common cold to cancer. He spends about 30 minutes explaining to each patient what happens to the body upon ingestion of the prescribed vegetables, concocted tea, fruits and fish. A check-up costs a minimal P100.



Bunyi (above, right) swears by the medicinal properties of ordinary backyard vegetables like malunggay and garlic

You do not have to worry about sticking to his medicine list because tomatoes, garlic, onions and other vegetables are bought daily in the market anyway. He prescribes vegetables that can be found in your environment – how difficult can it be to find *saluyot*, *malunggay* and *labanos* in the Philippines? But wait, Filipino overseas contract workers need not worry, too, because he knows what local vegetables and fruits can be found in the OFWs' various countries of destination. All you have to do is buy, prepare and eat religiously what he advises – no secret formulations or mysterious brews.

Bunyi advocates the consumption of locally produced foods, especially those that are picked from your own garden, because they are organically grown and pesticide- and insecticide-free. Fish that are fed with growth hormones can cause a lot of damage to the body, so he admonishes people not to eat them. The same goes for other animals immunized and injected with growth hormones. He explains that 50 years ago, when growth hormones were not yet fed and injected into fowl and livestock, Filipinos were a lot healthier. Now, Bunyi says, these growth hormones have been altering body system, such that young girls today, for example, are beginning to menstruate at a very young age of nine; when the normal age should be about 12. Children as young as four now have asthma and rheumatic heart diseases. Cancer cases are also on the rise.

"We have been bombarded with advertisements pointing to certain commercial products as good sources of protein, so we consume what they sell, not knowing that high protein intake leaves acid stains and residue in the body, which can cause diseases," Bunyi illustrates. "Products claiming to have high calcium content are also being forced on us."

The commercialization of the production of food to be able to produce larger quantities for more consumers has been damaging the Filipino's health. He thanks Republic Act 8423, the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act (TAMA) advocated by then former Health Secretary Juan Flavier, which legalized traditional medical practices. This law eliminates quackery and elevates traditional health knowledge to the level of accepted medical practice.

Meantime, Bunyi's brand of medicine is encouraging many patients to plant their own vegetables, start their own fish ponds and raise their own poultry and livestock for personal consumption. This may be a slow process, but it's a good start. Eat your heart out, profit seekers.

Pinoy High Down Under

Bohol-born Ranulfo Concon joins two other successful Filipino writers in harvesting top literary honors in Australia

"Clever, cheery"

HE HAS STUDIED CLOWNING AND TAP DANCING, HAS PAINTED AND EXHIBITED HIS STRANGE PAINTINGS, AND HAS WORKED IN A TAX OFFICE AND A VIDEO SHOP. HE HAS ALSO WORKED CLEANING RAILWAY CARRIAGES AND HAS WRITTEN A PRIZE-WINNING SHORT STORY ABOUT A SILLY CAT THAT ATE SYDNEY. IS THERE ANY WAY FOR AUSTRALIA-BASED FILIPINO ARTIST-WRITER RANULFO CONCON TO TOP HIMSELF?

Well, he just did.. Concon recently presented his first novel, "Nirvana's Children" at the Sydney Writers' Festival where the novel was described as "one of the cleverest, cheekiest comic voices to erupt into the young adult fiction scene." He is also currently working on his second novel, written entirely in cat language.

Bohol-born Concon joins two other Filipino writers who are making waves in Australia: Arlene Chai, an advertising copywriter turned novelist whose work "The Last Time I Saw Mother" became an instant hit, and Merlinda Bobis, a bilingual author, lecturer and performance artist, whose radio play, "Rita's Lullaby" has been awarded a prize by the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

Chai: Instant hit

Concon's first novel features the story of Napoleon, a 15-year-old Filipino boy who left his repressive home and takes to the streets of King Cross, where he falls into a difficult learning process of what life and reality means. Highly philosophical, the darkly funny "Nirvana's Children" takes the readers along as Napoleon searches for the ideal and muses over such contemporary issues as drugs, prostitution, conspiracy theories, crime and death.

Concon had a solo painting exhibition at the Holdsworth Contemporary. One of his works has been included in the Sulman Prize Exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW. Being part of the Sydney Writers' Festival Program is considered a singular honor for every artist because the week-long festival presents ideas, debate, performances, and writings from Australia's best writers.

Leaving
(a memory)

is painting the small palm
that strews the morning grass
with small green and red nuts
to hold daybreaks forever.

The picture of the rainbow
crowds with jars full
of splinters of wanderings
that end in my other small world.

Where I go I'll see
the half-wakened sun
ribbons the long spray
of white orchids.

Merilyn S. Pepito

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At gagawin kang Ninang
Dahil tinuli mo si Manong
Na tatay rin ni Neneng;
Ipagluluto ka ng Mongo
Na pinasarap ng lahok na Salagubang,
Patitikimin ng itlog ng Hantik
Na binalot sa sariwang dahon ng Saging;
Tatahiin mo ang tinagang sugat ni Tatang
Na umaalingasaw sa katas ng Gaas
Habang ngumunguya siya ng dahon ng Bayabas.
Titilaok ang tandang sa pagbuka ng Liwayway
Ngunit gigisingin ka ng ungol ng Aso
Na kumagat sa binti ni Manang
Na nanay rin ni Neneng.
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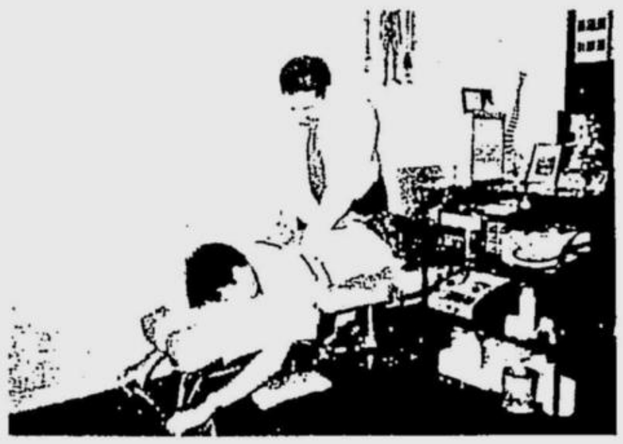

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Taking the Plunge

FOR MANY ACTORS DEAD-SET ON FOLLOWING LEA SALONGA'S "MISS SAIGON" SUCCESS STORY, A PART IN ONE OF CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S OR DISNEY'S MEGA-MUSICALS IN EUROPE, CANADA, AND AUSTRALIA SEEMS A LOGICAL STEP TO THE BROADWAY DREAM.

For fresh-faced, 18-year-old ingenue Katrina Villarante, it was, oddly enough, the other way around. This *balikbayan* left Canada, where she grew up, to study musical theater in the Philippines. After a few months and with very little theatrical experience or education, she won the understudy part of Jewel, the titular character of Trumpets' big-budget musical "The Little Mermaid."

Her try-outs were horrendous. "Two sentences down this song and my mind went blank! I just stood there smiling at everyone with this silly grin on my face"

Uncannily, like "Saigon's" Kim, Jewel's tale is one of sacrifice and unrequited passion. Unlike Lea Salonga's signature role, however, the sea princess finds redemption—and discovers that there are some things that are greater and more lasting than romantic love.

Clichéd as it may sound, Katrina admits she still can't believe her good turn. And you believe her candor. With disarming innocence, she easily laughs as she recounts how she almost bungled her auditions. There is very little of that cool, confident "Yes-I-know-the-part-was-practically-mine" air that you've come to expect from the more seasoned veterans.

Romy Homillada

Katrina: Planned on being a music teacher

The eagerness to learn, to understand and experience all that she can while the opportunity is there, is very palpable. "I am learning a lot," she acknowledges excitedly of the tough, rigorous rehearsals. Stage projection. Keeping and maintaining high energy levels. Emoting the character in song. Jumping and pirouetting in a dance number. Katrina couldn't be happier; she is getting what she came to the Philippines for.

Covering for leads Carol Banawa and Dianne dela Fuente as the little mermaid is probably icing on the cake. "I had originally planned to be a music teacher," Katrina says of her odyssey. It seemed the right course to take for the young soprano who sang in church choirs and played saxophone in Vancouver. Hearing "The Last Night of the World," the centerpiece love song in "Miss Saigon," changed everything. For a start, it introduced her to the world of musical theater—and the possibility that if Lea Salonga, whom she admits is her "inspiration," can break into Broadway, then other Filipinos can.

A door that led straight to the New York theater scene did open, via acceptance in the prestigious American Musical and Dramatic Academy, to boot. "But there were not enough funds, I didn't have the money [to move there and study]."

It was an aunt working in an airline company who suggested (along with free tickets) a novel idea: "If you can't go to New York or Europe, you can always go to the Philippines."

Katrina did, after doing a few odd jobs ("I baked bagels for a bakeshop everyday at 4:30 a.m.") to save up for her tuition and other related expenses. "It's not like we're rich, and I didn't want to inconvenience my parents. Even when I was in college, I worked," the quiet emphasis in her voice hinting of the work ethic lessons her parents must have passed on to her.

Katrina is a second-generation Filipino-Canadian; dad Gil and mom Ruth immigrated to Canada a decade ago. The former is a sales representative and his spouse an executive housekeeper for a hotel. The Villarantes have one more daughter, 12-year-old Patricia.

It took a while for the news that their daughter would appear in a lead role to sink in. "'Oh, could you just videotape it for us?'" Katrina says wryly, and between peals of laughter, mimics her conversation with her mother, who apparently had a small-scale production in mind. "'Oh, Mom, I don't think they allow cameras in Meralco Theater.' 'Meralco? Where's that?' 'I'm not sure, but it's a BIG theater.' 'Oh.'"

Well, the Villarantes now know the significance of Katrina's new theater experience, and mom Ruth will be flying in next month just to watch. The actress' grandparents and the other relatives with whom she's staying in Kamuning naturally wouldn't miss it.

But then, nobody was as surprised as she was. The original plan was just to stay in Manila for a couple of months. But her Musical Theater Course with Repertory Philippines lasted until June. Her music teacher at the Ryan Cayabyab Studio advised her to audition for one of the choruses in a mall-touring Disney show. It soon became her first professional stint: a total of four 30-minute shows wherein she

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Katrina with co-actors at "Little Mermaid" rehearsals

provided musical backup to the trademark prince and princess. ABS-CBN talent Dianne dela Fuente, who was also on the tour, soon became a friend.

And when Dela Fuente re-auditioned for the "Little Mermaid" role (which she originated along with Carol Banawa last year), Villarante tagged along.

To hear it from her, her try-outs were horrendous. "Two sentences down 'Whistle Down the Wind,' and my mind went blank! I just stood there, smiling at everyone with this silly grin on my face." Then, when the words returned, like a true stage trouper, she picked up from where she left and moved on. The dance auditions that followed were even worse. "I did so bad. When I wasn't picked up after the second call, I immediately left. I went down to have lunch, thinking the whole thing was over. Then a friend who also auditioned ran down and found me saying that they wanted to hear me sing. So I went up and sang again, with other people. Then," she takes a deep breath, "they asked everyone to leave, except me."

Not that she kept her hopes up. "There were 200 other people who auditioned. I thought I would only get ensemble. The only time I thought that there was a possibility of landing a bigger part was when they asked me to read for Jewel."

Still, it was just that, a possibility. It took a few more days before the production people asked Katrina to return—this time for a fitting. That was the only time she was told that she was the understudy for Jewel.

Though obviously bubbling with enthusiasm, Katrina remains surprisingly level-headed about the whole experience. Ask her why she was chosen from 200 others who probably had more training and stage credits and her reply comes in the form of a story. "It was during the auditions. Like the others, I didn't know my chances. But I did overhear *Tito* Jaime [del Mundo, "Mermaid's"" director] talking to someone. And it was as if he was directing it towards me. *Tito* Jaime said, 'I'm not judging her performance, but her potentials.'"

And does she see a potential theater career here in the Philippines? "My parents think it will be a short-term thing, and they advised me to prepare myself for the future with a college degree. If I go back to Canada, I'll take up Business Administration and perhaps put up my own business. But I would love to do more things here if the opportunity presents itself. And I will also take a college course if I do stay."

Immigrant-honed pragmatism aside, though, the lure of theater still beckons very strongly. "I want to make this last as long as I can."

(Trumpets' "The Little Mermaid," written by Luna Inocian and Jaime del Mundo, and directed by the latter, opens at the Meralco Theater on August 3.)

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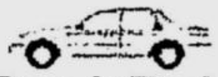

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Photographs by Manoy Navoleto

The Voice of Sobriety

THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT RIGOBERTO "BOBI" TIGLAO IS THAT HE'S GOT A NOSE FOR NEWS. THE BAD NEWS IS, BEING THE PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN, HE MUST ONLY SNIFF OUT THE GOOD NEWS. WHICH, AS EVERY JOURNALIST KNOWS, MAY NOT BE HEADLINE-MAKING NEWS AT ALL.

It helps that he knew President Arroyo when she was still part of this cozy academic discussion group. He still remembers her thoughts on certain issues and can almost read her mind

Fortunately for this former Manila bureau chief of the Far Eastern Economic Review, having been on the other side of the fence, he knows exactly what reporters are hungering for. He knows how his sources must be feeling when he badgered them for that one definitive word that separates news from rumor. He can tell when the line of questioning is nothing but a baiting expedition.

Another piece of good news about Bobi – and this one he'd wish was off the record – is that he has overcome his stage fright. He still gets the jitters, but he gets by. He is past that stage, he says, when his main worry was that he might end up being the shortest-lived spokesman to ever set foot in Malacañang.

"*Dyahe* (What a shame)," he chortles in the language of the '70s.

Dyahe talaga, especially if you were personally chosen by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to read her mind and speak on her behalf so she can focus her energies on terrestrial issues such as land reform, poverty, Erap and the Abu Sayyaf.

Dyahe too, especially if you were The Bobi Tiglao, awarded Best News Reporter by the Catholic Mass Media in 1983; named Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) for print journalism in 1991; winner of the Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation's Asian Economic Journalist of the Year award in 1991 and one of the founders of the prestigious Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism (PCIJ).

But for some days last summer, Bobi seriously worried about his fate. He had his premier press briefing on April 24. The police came to arrest former President Joseph Estrada on the 25th. By dawn of the 26th, it was clear the Macapagal administration was on the brink of a political crisis.

"For a while there we thought we would lose because media was on the other side," he says. Funny, but Erap and the rest of the opposition also thought they lost because media was on the other side! Burdened with the feeling, Bobi, with a worrywart look on his face, charged on daily before the cameras. "It was dizzying but I tried not to appear dizzy," he says.

The dizzying part was not induced by Erap's minions, but by the personal circumstance of Bobi's being there at the rostrum, beneath the glare of cameras, with a picture of Malacañang by the Pasig for a background.

"I am not used to speaking before an audience. I am a writer, not a speaker," he says with emphasis. "And writers are usually very private persons."

Bobi was the editor in chief of the country's premier news website INQ7.net when a friend relayed to him a message from just-sworn-in President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, asking if he wanted to be presidential spokesperson. This was in late January. He told the friend to tell GMA that he was interested but could not make a decision at the moment. His wife, Racquel Edralin Tiglao, was gravely ill.

On February 28, Rocky Tiglao, Bobi's soulmate, succumbed to cancer, leaving behind Bobi and three children, Andrea Raquel, Alexandro Kalayaan and Ben Siddharta. At the wake, no less than President Arroyo herself would stride in, to offer her condolences and more. Arroyo then personally invited Bobi to join her administration.

Press briefing: A jittery start, but he got by

Who can say no to the President, who also happens to be a fellow *Kapampangan*? Bobi asked for a decent mourning period of 45 days, which he spent tying loose ends at the INQ7.net, where he had been editor since March 2000.

INQ7.net executive editor J.V. Rufino recalls his first impression of Bobi Tiglao. "I knew he was a name in the industry but I wasn't sure about how he would adapt to the medium," JV says. His fears were unfounded, it would turn out. At the onset of his term as INQ7.net's top honcho, Bobi introduced the Breaking News section. JV's co-executive editor Leo Magno, on the other hand, introduced the What's Happening section, which is most remembered for the landmark minute-by-minute account of Edsa Dos that catapulted the INQ7.net site among the best in the world.

Today, Bobi's baby, Breaking News, continues to inform netizens around the world on the latest Philippine news. It has also become a reference of sorts for top officials, including members of the Cabinet, according to an unimpeachable source, the presidential spokesperson himself.

What had Bobi done, in the first place, that got Gloria's attention?

In the early '80s, Bobi was a business reporter with Business Day, the nesting place of former political detainees. He was a Marcos prisoner from March 1973 to December 1974, and was psychologically tortured and injected with truth serum. Released from prison, Bobi was drawn into mysticism. His youngest son, Ben Siddharta, was born during this phase. His eldest daughter, Andrea Racquel, is named after the M/V Andrea/Karagatan, the motor launch that police captured off Digoyo Point in Isabela which was loaded with a cache of explosives and firearms intended allegedly for the New People's Army. His second-born, Alexandro Kalayaan, was born upon his release from prison.

A favorite hangout of journalists and anti-Marcos intellectuals was – and still is – Remembrances, in Ermita. It's a dark, smoke-filled watering hole with about 12 tables owned by Jim Turner, a former Peace Corps volunteer turned Manileño. Turner also owns Hobbit House, which shares a kitchen with Remembrances.

Newsmen flock to Remembrances to drink, talk, sing if the pianist is around, and say hello to Turner. Once upon the '80s, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo frequented the place and did just that. The discussion group had Bobi and friends, among them Patty Paez, who was then teaching at the University of the Philippines in Manila; Jun Miranda, Gary Olivar, among others.

"It was a beer-drinking *barkada*. It was a very nationalistic, cozy academic discussion group. We discussed global issues, a lot of Marcos issues, political economics and that stuff," said Bobi. Martial law had just been lifted, and there was a mad scramble for an inch of democratic space. Bobi remembers distinctly his impressions of the daughter of former President Diosdado Macapagal.

"I didn't think she had the fire to become a politician. I didn't even know she had political skills. I thought she'd wind up a technocrat. She was not a back patter," Bobi says. "She was just a rich academic."

But he also remembers her as being very much into socialism, and as being a warm person. To this day, Bobi remembers GMA's thoughts on certain issues. It would not be hard reading her mind. And so when the drinking buddy-turned-President asked him to give her a hand as her spokesman, Bobi said the offer was made simply: "It was not a business deal or anything. All she wants is somebody who could speak for the president."

It was also made clear from Day One that Bobi would not be a parrot spokesperson. "The President asks me to join committee meetings so I know how decisions are made." If he had to read her mind, Bobi admits, "it is with an element of not assuming this is how she thinks," but always taking into consideration how the decision was made. In some instances, Bobi takes comfort in the fact that he knows the President from way back, and had in fact shared her views on certain issues.

"The President is very frank to a fault. It's because of her philosophy in life. She is doing her best and she feels she has nothing to hide. A more Machiavellian president would think of the impact, but GMA just goes ahead. *Derecho siya* because she is really transparent. Sometimes her answers are very terse, but she means it."

Speaking the mind of the President is tough, especially when arrayed against the loquacious Abu Sabaya, the spokesman of the Abu Sayyaf group. When Sabaya went on air threatening to behead the hostages, and the media asked for the President's reaction, Bobi felt a chill down his spine. "I had this fear that my statement could kill the hostages. I don't want to provoke them. But at the same time, I have to be firm in laying out the policies of the government without being conciliatory."

The problem is that journalists are trained, simplistically, he says, to look for the headlines for the next day. "Some Malacañang reporters also think it's anything goes. It's quite tricky," he laughs. Being there at the center can give one a sense of importance. "It's easy to get carried away, the power and all that;" he said. But Bobi's feet are glued to the ground. "The pressure is inside – it's the thought something may happen and I'm not around."

Then he had to deal with his newfound recognizability. "I can't even go out and buy Chippy. It's bad to be recognized." It was rough sailing at the start. He had no office, no staff and had to face the media hungry for information on the President's thoughts about Erap and his followers camped at Edsa. Bobi said he got by with as much help from Press Secretary Noel Cabrera and Press Undersecretary Bobby Capco, both former colleagues in media.

Every now and then, Bobi admits to some "strange feelings," like when he had to respond to a former colleague in the Left, Jose Ma. Sison, who lambasted the government panel for the collapse of the peace talks in Oslo, Norway last May. Bobi took the issue head-on, but all in the spirit of work. "I've grown out of the old Marxist framework. In the '70s, it appealed to all, but that was 20 years ago," he shrugs his shoulders. "I think it's just part of the evolution of ideas."

At this moment, Bobi's main concern is reaching out to media. He has also discovered the power and impact of radio, TV and the tabloids. He gets calls as early as 5:30 a.m. from radio commentators asking a minute or five of his time. His current passion is telling the world the good news about the country. "There will be an economic turnaround in six months. The economy will sprint. The Abu Sayyaf will be reduced to a military operation." And so forth ...If the President thinks this is so, and her spokesperson says this is so, then it must be good news.

But bad news for newsmen out there who think they can hoodwink a former journalist by filching documents from the presidential spokesperson's office. Bobi's table, a rectangular piece of solid dark wood, has drawers on both sides. A word of caution: the drawers are fake. So, there, guys, don't say we didn't warn you.

by Anton San Diego
photographs by Chito Vecina

PIA
Regala-Hebron

IS SHE fashion's next big star?

She has been one of Rustan's best kept secrets for the last eight years. A woman who has stood in the shadows, but whose time has now come. Pia Regala-Hebron started out as a merchandising manager/ designer for Rustan's brands Caravan and Luna, and was recently at the helm of the newly launched Jill. Her success was not an overnight thing. It took two years of study in Florence at the Instituo per L'arte e il Restauro, where she was exposed to illustrating, the history of costume, pattern making, textile design – all of which led to a chance encounter with Rustan's in 1993.

"Initially, I wanted to work for Benetton, because I wanted to work for a company where I could use my knowledge of the Italian language. But a friend of mine, Christina Mendoza (now Rodriguez), introduced me, and they liked my work. It went pretty fast."

Her first line was Caravan, a weekend line. It was a huge success, and from then on, she became the label's merchandising manager. A bigger break came in 1997, when the original designer for Luna left and she was given full control. Luna is a dressier evening line, and Rustan's is giving Pia a big debut as the designer for that label.

"I am quite excited about the show. I have really worked hard for this. My style has never been outlandish but very classic. I am using colors that I have never used before, and it is a more defined collection. I am also experimenting with beading components, using semiprecious stones like Swarovski and a lot of drapery. I am trying new things."

Pia, who is married to Desi Hebron III, is also expecting her first child soon. It seems that this woman has been blessed. She admits, though, that it has taken "a lot of determination and prayer. It's a great opportunity for me to be part of this company and for them to believe in me. But there's still so much to learn."

She definitely has the energy, talent, charisma, business savvy and support. What will make her succeed where others before her have failed? Pia has a chance to make the most of what has been given her. So on July 26 at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel, at the debut gala show for Luna by Pia Regala-Hebron, Philippine fashion may just have to make room for a new fashion star.

This is Her World.

'Happiness is knowing that the people you care for are all well and safe. It's having a stable career, doing what you love, being at peace with yourself'

Morning ritual?
When I wake up I press the snooze button first because I'm sort of a slow, wake-me-up type of person. Then I make a list of what I need to do for the morning or that day so I don't forget. I have breakfast prepared, and if my husband is still there we have breakfast together. I take a shower, then I'm off to work.

Who are your favorite designers?
I like Alberta Ferretti, Jil Sander when she was in charge, and Badgely Mischka for their evening gowns.

Who to you is a stylish person?
For me, a stylish person really is someone who just looks confident in what she's wearing. It doesn't have to be a name brand or anything. I think Agot Isidro and Gia Santos-Estrella, who works with SSI and handles Ferragamo, are stylish people.

What's your greatest extravagance?
Every month I spend a lot on magazines – that's what I spend a lot of money on.

Define happiness.
It's knowing that the people you care for, those you love, are all well and safe. It is also having a stable career, doing what you love, being at peace with yourself, your conscience is clear. I think that's real happiness, when you find that.

What was your first ambition when you were young?
I wanted to be a gymnast. I wanted to be like Nadia Comaneci, and I'd climb everything. Actually there was even one time I climbed a flagpole, and my mom had to call a fire truck to get me down.

Favorite memory as a child?
I have so many, but the first thing that comes to mind was our family trips to Hawaii when we were young. Also simple stuff, like singing in the car with my sisters.

A cozy corner full of candles in the Hebron home

Her husband, Desi Hebron III

Pia paints to relax

Her parents, Teddy and Carminda Regala

Best lesson your parents taught you?
From my Dad, it would be to have some direction in my life. To always appreciate the opportunities that come your way. He really doesn't take things for granted. From my Mom, the important thing she's taught me is to always put yourself in the other person's place. She's so unbiased; you tell her what you're feeling and she always puts herself in the other person's place and gives you that side.

If you could go back in time, what would you advise yourself to do or not do?
That would be the time when I was leaving to study in Italy. I would advise myself to plan things out more because there were many things that I regretted when I was there, things I didn't do that I would have loved to do now. Also, to be more adventurous but not to take things too seriously.

Favorite spot on earth?
That would be the Rodin Museum in Paris. There's a little garden there, and the sculptures are all spread out. I went there with my Dad. It wasn't a typical museum. It's like a little house and you're surrounded by his work.

What or who inspires you?
Anything – a book or a city or an article in a magazine. Also, my parents again. My Dad, because of his dedication to his work. My Mom, because she's so youthful and open and I hope to be like that as a mother.

What's one thing in life you don't have that you wish you had?
A younger sibling. I would have wanted to be an *ate* to someone.

What relaxes and upsets you?
Relaxes: Staying at home now. Being with my nieces, my nephews. Driving on Sundays.

Upsets: Traffic is one thing. Also, people who try to impress. Irresponsibility. Laziness.

What's the most important thing in your life now?
Initially, I think what comes to mind is my career, but now I will have to say my marriage, as well. After a while, your career sort of loses its importance. What's more important now are the relationships you have, the experiences that you have with your family.

How did your husband propose to you?
My husband Desi proposed to me on his birthday. I was arriving from Hong Kong that day, and he made me plan a birthday dinner. So he said, "I think I want to have a nice dinner, so let's invite some friends." I thought it was just going to be our really close friends, which was like two other couples that we hang out with, but he wanted to include my sisters and their husbands. I had no idea. Of course the rest knew. When they brought the cake out, he knelt down next to me, and he said something that I could not hear. He was getting so conscious so he pulled me away because everyone was watching. And then he said, "Pia, I love you. I want you to be my wife. Will you marry me?" Of course I cried, and everyone was screaming.

What kind of mother do you want to be?
I want to be the type of mother who's really hands-on, for one. I don't want them running for the *yaya*. I want them running for me. I think I'll be pretty lenient, but I'll really try and instill really strong values. I'll let them be their own person.

What is your hope for your child?
Happiness in everything. To find out who they really want to be. To have their own minds. To find strength.

How would you like to be remembered?
With my child, it would be as a good mother, someone like that. That's how I look at my Mom. I hope my kids would want to be like me. As a giving person, as someone who's a friend for life. I think that's what's important for me.

Greatest teaching you have learned so far from life?
Expect the unexpected always, and God will only give you what you can handle. It's a good principle to keep in mind. I know it will never be given to me if I can't handle it.

For comments, please e-mail asd_world@hotmail.com

by Fr. Ruben J. Villote

The Way We Were:

Excerpts from a Pastoral Journal, 1970-1982

"The Filipino is a naturally generous giver... If he sees that you are sharing with him whatever time, talent and treasure you have, he will make ganti *by doing the same"*

Tipas, Taguig (1970-1976)

The time was between 1970 and 1972, and the place was a small remote fishing village in Barrio Tipas, Taguig.

Through the established *sangguniang pampurok* and the occupational/sectoral groupings, the youth and the young adult groups in the various *sitios* did a survey-file of the Catholic families in their respective *sitios*.

From that survey (1971-1972), we found out that there were 13,000 people in Tipas at that time, 70 percent of whom were fishermen and farmers, the majority (54 percent) being fishermen. The rest were laborers, carpenters, security guards, vendors, shoemakers, etc. The average daily wage was between P3 and P5.

And yet, these people, struggling to survive from one day to the next, said they were willing to share part of their substance with their new parish, Parokya ni San Juan Bautista. Almost all the Catholic families (and many volunteer non-Catholic communities) pledged between P2 and P10 monthly. Many of them even pledged their free services as carpenters, painters, plumbers, engineers and physicians for the Church.

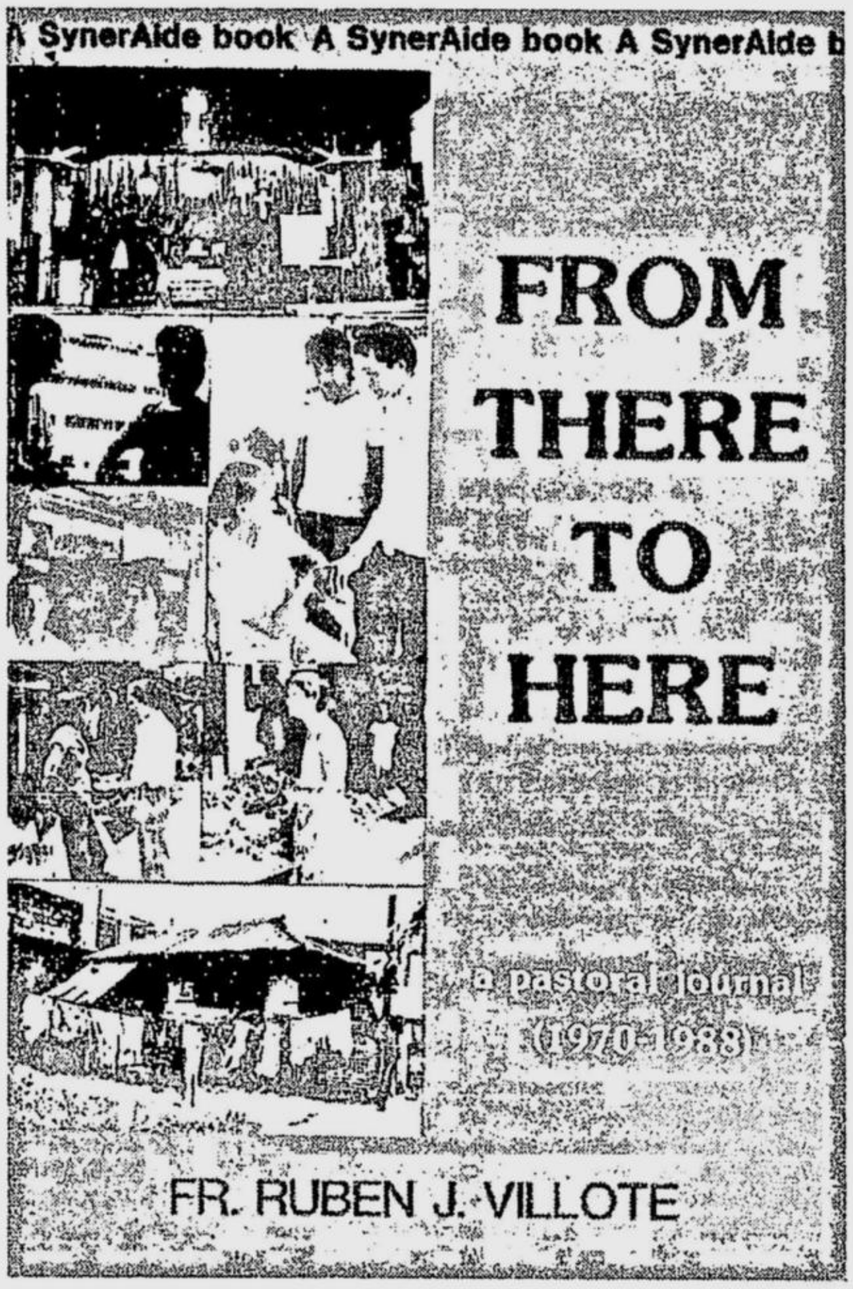
These monthly pledges were officially entered into the "social services files" of the parish together with the birthdays, wedding anniversaries, death anniversaries, skills, hobbies, occupations, and other personal and family data.

Through this system, all birthday and wedding anniversary celebrators got a greeting card on their special days, personally signed by the parish priest. This is part of the specific ministry of the *Kilusang Bayanihan*. It not only did a regular updating of the social services files, but also sent out birthday and anniversary greeting cards to the celebrators each month. It also sent a permanent team of mature ladies to collect the monthly pledges. *Ka* Toning Marcelo did all the dirty work of receiving and accounting for the tithings and offerings in cash and in kind, thus sparing me from touching a centavo for six years.

The *Kilusang Bayanihan* made it possible for me to do away with the *arancel* system, the prescriptive fees for baptisms, weddings, Masses and funerals. The monthly revenue from the *Kilusang Bayanihan* was, for me, more than enough to maintain the basic material and pastoral needs of the parish priest. When the people knew that their parish church was not a marketplace, they gave much more than they originally pledged. They even helped recruit others from outside the parish to join the *Kilusang Bayanihan*. They offered not only their money but also themselves.

Two non-parishioners who joined the spirit of the *Kilusang Bayanihan* were Alejandro Lichauco and Marilen Martinez, among others. Marilen donated her talent fee from her regular TV show to our "Bancas for Liberation" project, a fishermen's cooperative which enabled poor but deserving fishermen to own their own fishing boats and nets. Ding Lichauco helped us put up a People's Producers Cooperative, which gradually led to the formation of a skills training and livelihood center which not only trained unskilled workers but also produced items for export.

The People's Cooperative or Likdayan (*Likhang Kooperatiba ng Dambanang Kawayan*) was deliberately not a parish-related project. It was an experiment in grassroots self-governance expressed through a project which was self-managed and self-propelled. It was the explicit joint intention of the donors of the seed money and myself to entrust the funds not to the parish priest, but directly to a board of trustees from the grassroots, with the incumbent parish priest sitting as an ordinary member. The reasons given were 1) to test the people's competence to decide and function by themselves in relation to this project, and 2) to save the future parish administrators from the temptation of misappropriating the funds. The possibility of the board itself misappropriating the funds was, of course, considered, but we were willing to risk making our own mistake to test the validity of our populist-oriented vision.



Punta, Sta. Ana, Manila (1976-1982)

The *Dambanang Bayan* (People's Shrine) Parish of *Ina ng Laging Saklolo* (Mother of Perpetual Help) was established April 3, 1976.

Like an island, it lies between two rivers (Pasig and San Juan rivers) with only one main road cutting through the middle. When the rivers overflow due to typhoons and tides, the community is almost always flooded. The people lived perpetually under either water or mud during the wet season, or dust during summer.

There are four big factories in the parish: the Philippine Match Company, Marcelo Steel, AG&P, and Exxon Chemicals, which have added to the ecological misery of the people.

As of 1976, population was 21,000, 70 percent of whom lived below the poverty line. Punta is a typical inner-city community of migrant workers, small government employees, laundry women, jeepney drivers, market vendors, tenement settlers and slum dwellers. Fifty-eight percent is youth (age 0-25), most of whom are out-of-school and unemployed.

Most of the families involved in the 30 covenant communities are members of the *Kilusang Kapwa*, an association of families "sharing their substance" regularly with the parish. A pastoral directory is filed and updated constantly by a *Kilusang Kapwa* Social Secretariat composed of youth volunteers. Each member of the *Kilusang Kapwa* receives a greeting card on his/her birthday, on Christmas, Easter, anniversaries, etc.

In the context of this KK pastoral-funding system, we find no need for the *arancel* system. But I do not recommend the abolition of the *arancel* system in parishes which have not yet somehow implemented the basic Christian communities approach.

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Excerpts from a CorManila interview in the '80s

Q: Where do you get your funding?

A: We have a family pledge system called *Kilusang Kapwa*. Each member-family shares part of its income with the parish — from 50 centavos to P5 monthly. The Block Coordinators and Pastoral Couples steward this movement in their respective BBCs by providing us with the names, birthdays, wedding/death anniversaries, skills, concerns, etc., of each family. Each member of the family gets a greeting card on special days. This is all made possible by a communications data filing system ministered by a youth team. *Kilusang Kapwa* enables us to dispense with the *arancel* system (fees for baptisms, weddings, etc.) which, according to a parish survey made earlier, could have been a stumbling block in the fulfillment of our concrete pastoral vision in our new parish, which is basically a community of factory workers, jeepney drivers, migrant slum dwellers and tenement settlers.

Q: Is the parish income sufficient to support you and your projects?

A: The Filipino is a naturally generous giver. Even if you don't name a price for your services, he will insist on giving more than you expected. The Filipino is also naturally used to "reciprocal giving." If he sees that you are sharing with him whatever time, talent and treasure you have, he will make *ganti* by doing the same (*utang na loob*). But the moment you "price" him, he immediately feels compelled and turned off — especially if you are a churchman. Of course the *arancel* system is more "lucrative" but if a priest decides to "interiorize" his priesthood by simplifying his lifestyle, he can do much more with much less.

Q: Would this "un-traditional" lifestyle not turn off the succeeding priest?

A: Each priest has his own gifts and charisms which he shares with the community. The community then is enriched by these charisms. When a new priest shares his new charisms with a community already enriched by the charisms of the previous priest, both the new priest and the community are mutually renewed and re-enriched by their shared charisms which all come from the same Source. The Holy Spirit breathes and moves where He wills. If only we breathe and move with Him—in a spirit of prayer and humility— He can work wonders with us. A so-called "traditionalist fixation" on pastoral matters retards our spiritual growth, and a retarded Church is certainly not the Church born on the first Pentecost Sunday.

Q: Do you know that there are members of both clergy and laity who are not quite sold on your ideas?

A: Yes, I know. But I am not selling my ideas. I am not asking anyone to believe in me. I am only sharing my experiences by reflecting aloud. All I intend to do is to tell myself that what was stubbornly thought impossible before is not impossible at all. It has been done! If hope is the capacity for surprise, the Lord is surprising me indeed by enabling me to do even the craziest things for His glory.

Q: What does your Archbishop (Cardinal Sin) say about your "craziness"?

A: He seems to be enjoying the whole circus himself. He has celebrated Mass here many times, and he has surprised us with his openness and sense of hilarity over our so-called "achievements." I said to myself — with St. Paul in Romans 8:31: "If God and the Archbishop and the people are for us, who can be against us?"

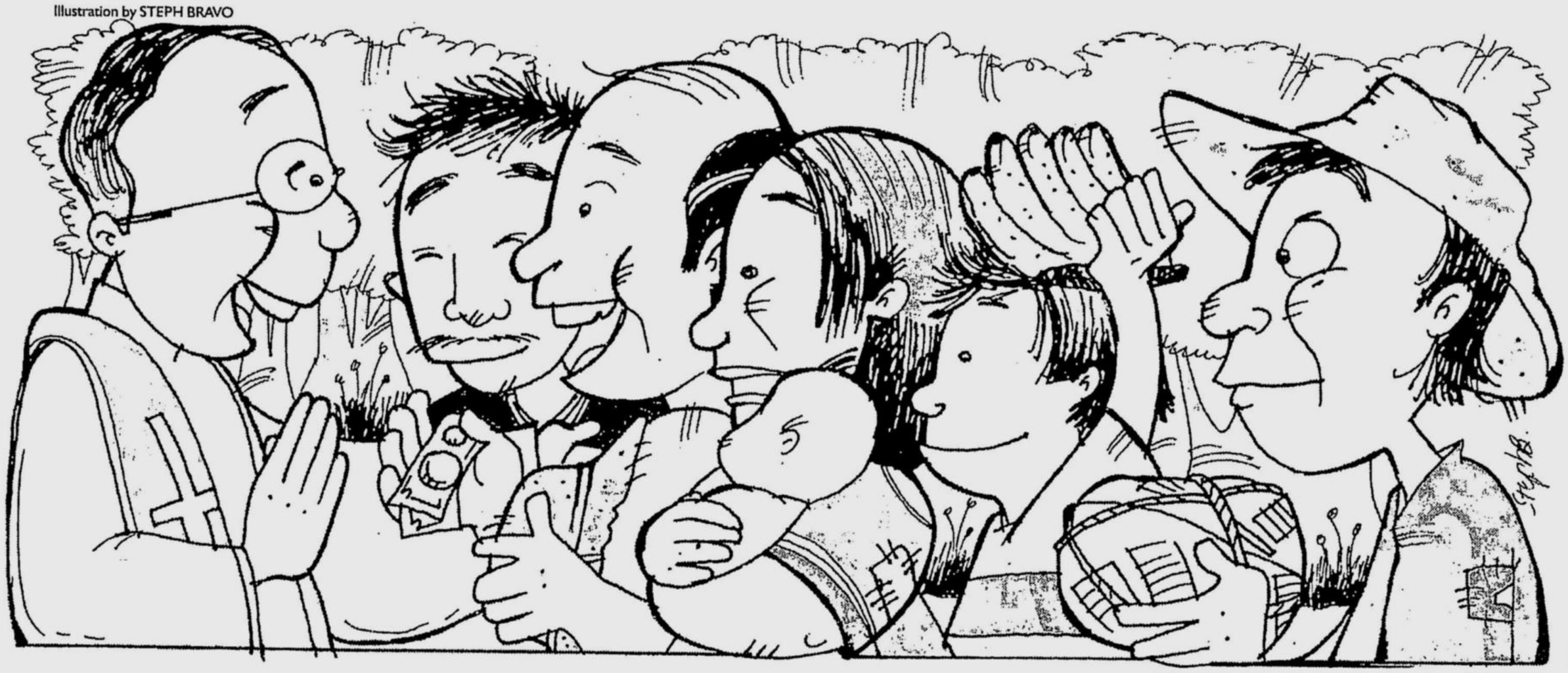
Q: Who is your favorite hero?

A: Jonathan Livingstone Seagull.

Q: But that is a bird!

A: Precisely. That's why everything I have said here is for the birds. After all, my crazy dream is to fly!

Illustration by STEPH BRAVO



Confessions of A Graduate School Slacker

TONIGHT I CAN WRITE THE SADDEST LINES. YES, THOSE WERE THE ACHING WORDS OF CHILEAN POET PABLO NERUDA, AND NOW I CAN SAY THE SAME THING FOR MYSELF.

First let me say I am a graduate student now contemplating turning back from the mountains of graduate school to the molehills of getting a life. After two years of burning the midnight oil reading Ferdinand de Saussure and Noam Chomsky, I have realized that it is time to move on. Call it grad school burnout or maybe twentysomething itch, but I have had delusions lately of being on some beach instead, checking out the waves or something.

I sure do not want to fail the expectations of the people who have trusted me to finish my MA in English Studies, and these include my parents, my very few close allies (in gimmicks, etc.) and someone who I thought was my soulmate (before he dumped me). All I can say is, for the first time in my life, a looming certainty has grappled me by the sleeve, and that is – I just want a rest from graduate school.

I am sorry for the rant. Some of you might say, so what, then go get a life if you wish. I just wished things were easier done than said. I am an A student and I am now in this job where a postgraduate course is the key to the treasure chest, and it becomes harder to explain why I am quitting at this point. It would have been easier if I could use my worn-out excuse of being dumped right in the middle of my thesis work, but this is 2001, and the excuse worked a year ago. Pathos is the last thing I need in the face of my grad school teachers, who for the past few months may have seen me walking in the mall again and getting by.

Whereas before the library was my refuge and retreat, it now takes me just one visit to develop allergies and sneeze off my nose. I used to love those dusty, yellowing pages of books at the archives, but after my last visit I was asking myself what I was doing with my Saturday afternoons. I remember altogether what Morrie said from Mitch Albom's "Tuesdays with Morrie," when he said, "There's a big confusion over what people want versus what they need." I am actually asking myself what it is that I really want.

All I know is I want to learn new things each day, even if it means being in school again, and I know that it may not take a master's degree for me to be able to do that. I want to be able to grow old and tell my grandchildren about the scent of flowers during the summer and the soothing calmness from a slight drizzle during the wet days. I want to feel the gentle breeze that comes rarely in a tropical setting, not the artificial air from some air-conditioned room full of books. I want to be able to say on my deathbed that life is not all about being in the track field, where one has to keep stuffing straight lines in an achiever's resume. But that some of life's finest moments are best spent sitting on a chair contemplating a lovely thought, and then sharing it with someone else.

Call it rationalizing or sour-graping, but these things are what I keep thinking about whenever I open my latest references for my thesis. I just can't help but think of the other things I could be doing instead. And I think when one has asked one too many questions of philosophical magnitude, it is time to move on – or step back for a while to get the answers.

I envy my friends who are now brimming with enthusiasm over their grad school responsibilities. I missed the days when I was like them, eager to gobble up everything at 23. But then again, I go back to what I really want in life, and I think about whether I should envy them or not. I take immense pride in knowing that it feels good to reach out for a dream and not be scared of getting something else. Isn't life like that? We obsess for the wrong things and realize it later. I remember a friend quoting that from a movie. We pine for those who don't like us. We buy shoes that may not look good, but buy them anyway because they're cheap. We settle for what we can have, even if it is not what we have been living for.

I am still writing my thesis if you think I have given up, but that doesn't mean that I want to keep doing it. I'm just not sure if I want my work to be among the hundreds of unread materials in our library. I'm still trying to convince myself to do it, although I'm not sure I will. For the moment, I am stuck in something I am having second thoughts about. It's like being a bride in some pre-arranged wedding, with half of me wanting to do what I'm bound for and the other half wanting to flee.

I guess all of us, at one point, go through that phase in life when we are at a standstill and we question what it is we really want. I want to stop writing my thesis right now, and with all the risks at hand, I am ready to face my battles. My parents might freak out. My friends might be shocked at the number of hours I now have for poetry readings and malling. Or my mistaken soulmate might be happy in a Freudian kind of way that he may have left a permanent scar in my heart.

As for me, I can't wait for my next adventure. I can't wait for the number of hours I can have reading Jane Austen. I can't wait for the day when I can have a full-time career. I can't wait to improve my French. I can't wait to share my afternoon with a new friend who has no idea he means the world to me. I can't wait for the evenings when I can sleep cozily in bed without worrying about a paper I have to write for the next day.

Furthermore, I can't wait for the "days to hear the immense night ... and the verse falls to the soul like dew to the pasture." I'm quoting Neruda again.

Illustration by STEPH BRAVO

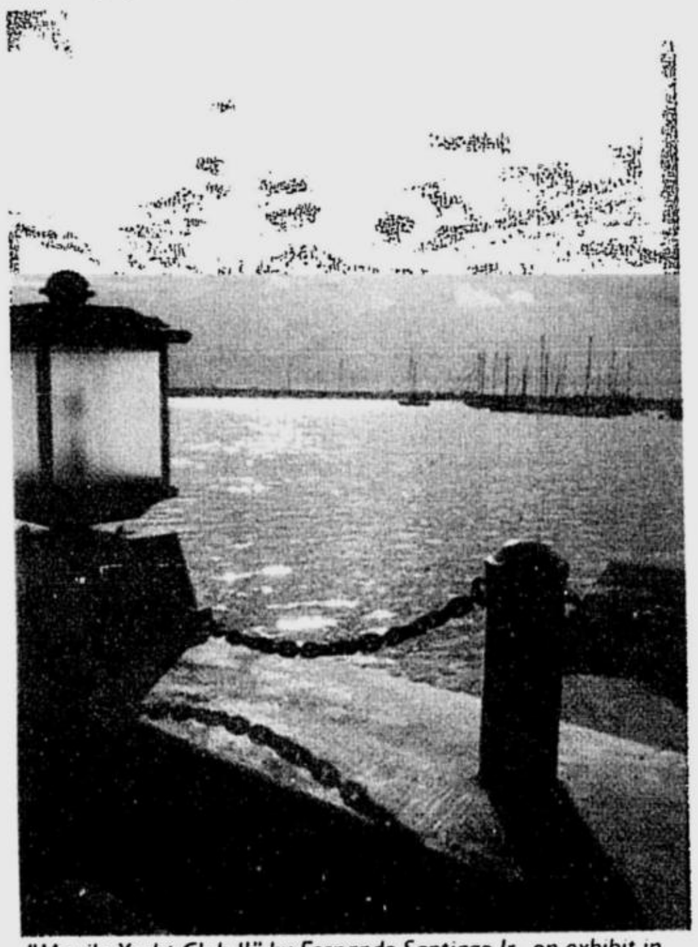
This Week

Art

Of Woman and Drapes, a solo exhibit by Emma Navarro at the Big and Small Art Gallery, upper lobby of The Enterprise Center, Ayala Avenue, Makati City until July 28.

Angles and Nightmares, a one-man exhibit of digitally-rendered art by Patton, until July 31 at Bistro 110, Palanca St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Deaf artists The Silent Family art group opens a painting exhibit at the Enterprise Center, Ayala cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City on July 26 at 7 p.m. For details, call 921-8521.



"Manila Yacht Club II" by Fernando Santiago Jr., on exhibit in "Chiaroscuro" at the DLSU Art Gallery

Chiaroscuro, an exhibit of colored photographs of land and seascapes by Fernando A. Santiago Jr. until July 30 at DLSU Art Gallery, DLSU Campus, 2401 Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila.

Late Night Show, an exhibit of contemporary issues that Charlie Co tackles on his canvas, until July 29 at Galleria Duemila, 4/L, SM Megamall.

Buen Viaje, a two-man exhibit by Anthony Palomo and Riel Jaramillo at the Ayala Museum until today.

Verdad, 90 artworks featuring paintings, collages and drawings by Spanish artist Gonzalo Martin-Calero, until July 28 at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila.

Music

Barbie's Cradle's schedule of performances: July 24, Padi's Point (Mindanao Avenue, QC); July 26, Watering Hole (Edsa Shangri-La); July 27, Jekyl & Hyde (Taft); July 30, Southern Bulls (QC).

The Manila Chamber Orchestra Foundation presents young pianist **Hiyas A. Hila** in a special concert on July 23, 7:30 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall. For ticket inquiries, call 818-1403 and 813-3849.

Hedgwig and the Angry Inch will stage a mock rock concert starting July 27 at the Francisco Santiago Hall, Equitable PCI Bank Building, Makati City. For details, call 892-7078.

Onstage

Ang Buhay ay Isang Panaginip, an allegorical tale of illusion and reality of political power presented by Tanghalang Ateneo, will go on tour to the FEU Auditorium until July 31. For inquiries, call 426-6001, locals 5330 or 5056, or email TanghalangAteneo@hotmail.com.

Romeo at Julieta: Isang Komedi presented by Araw Theater Ensemble and Alyansa Inc. will be staged today and on July 29, 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at St. Benilde Theater, Taft Avenue, Manila. Tickets available at the gate.

El Camino Real, Nick Joaquin's historical presentation of Don Emilio Aguinaldo's capture and defeat opens July 27 and runs until August 19 at the CCP Tanghalang Aurelio V. Tolentino. For details, call 832-3661.

CandoCo, an international touring company from Bristol, England, will perform a concept of integrated dance, putting disabled dancers alongside able-bodied ones on July 25-26, 8 p.m. at the AFP Theater, Camp Aguinaldo. For details, call 914-1011 to 14.

Cinema

Riles, a mini-festival of interesting and not widely distributed Filipino short films, July 25-26, 7:30 p.m. at Suez-Ondeo Auditorium, Alliance Francaise de Manille. An open forum with Raymond Red and Nick Deocampo will follow after each screening session. For details, call 895-7441.

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Usapang Presyo

Atbp

The Amado V. Hernandez Resource Center announces that the yearly **Gawad Ka Amado 2001** is now open for submission of entries with the theme *"Ang Sentenaryo ng Militanteng Unyonismong Pilipino: Bagong Siglo, Bagong Sigla."* The categories are: *Tula* (3 pieces), *Dulang May Isang Yugto* (20-40 pages), *Awit* (maximum of 5 minutes in length), *Talambuhay ng Anakpawis* (taped interview, 15-20 pages) and *Sining Biswal* (poster). Entries may be sent to 9 Matino St., Barangay Pinyahan, QC. Deadline is August 1.

St. John Colleges in Calamba, Laguna will hold a **grand alumni homecoming** in December. For details, call Nick Diaz at 895-1231 and 896-9013.

Discovering Israel, a special storytelling session about Israel, July 28, 10 a.m. at the Karapatan Hall of the Museo Pambata. For details, call 523-1798.

Museo Pambata and Luntiang Daigdig offer **art and painting course for children** aged 4-6 and 7-11 every Saturday at 2 p.m. Registration is limited to 15 participants for each level. For details, call 523-1797 to 98.

Holiday Inn Manila brings back its **Manila for Less package** with a 50 percent discount in its room rack rates inclusive of buffet breakfast. For inquiries, call 526-1212 loc. 2343.

Get free printable discount coupons, **free ePostcards** with Coupon Bee Surprise and other exciting promos at www.freecubes.com. For inquiries, please all 744-5497 or email info@freecubes.com.

Kids 7 to 12 years old are invited to join **Mindave Free Children's Workshop** on Sunday afternoons at Padi's Mindave Restaurant & Bar, Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City, undertaken with Faber-Castell of Germany. For inquiries, call 453-0080.

Snack Craft Camp, a series of craft classes for kids 7-13, July 24-28, 2-4 p.m., Pottery Exchange, Bonaventure Bldg., Ortigas (fronting Unimart). Crafts offered are cross-stitching, handbuilding pottery, decoupage, polymer clay and ceramic painting. For details, call 721-0801 and 726-7164.

Fil-Mission Sunday (Philippine Mission Sunday), a special day of prayer in thanksgiving for the gift of faith with the theme "The Filipino faithful are missionaries of Asia," will be held on July 29. For details, call 731-3208.

Bahay Nakpil-Bautista (432 A. Bautista St., Quiapo, Manila) offers the following activities every Saturday: Basic Photography class; Baybayin Workshop where participants can learn the ancient Filipino syllabary; Lakaran sa Quiapo—a tour of the heritage houses and spiritual centers of Quiapo. Also, a chance to shop at the many bargain centers around Quiapo and Carriedo. Other ongoing activities are Yoga classes, Sundays, 8 a.m., and Portraiture. For details, call 734-9341.

X-manila

The Heritage Conservation Society will hold an **architectural tour of Malolos, Bulacan** on July 28, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Meeting place will be in front of the Museo Pambata. For details, call 521-2239 and 522-2497.

Ensembles 2, a collage and book art exhibit at The Sanctuary Gallery, Maryknoll, Campo Sioco, Baguio City until August 2.

Island Cove Resort in Kawit, Cavite is an ideal venue for corporate conferences, seminars, product launches, symposia, fellowship and other meetings with its 12 function rooms, banquet halls and pavilions. For details, call (046) 434-0210.

Tagupci Foundation Inc. will conduct a three-day **Basic Acting and Theater Workshop** for the Assumption High School in Iloilo on July 26-28. For inquiries, email tagupci@eudoramail.com.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.

The Truth about Losing Weight Fast

WEIGHT LOSS SPECIAL!!

The amazing Fruit Acid which attacks and devours fat – is it really the only safe and effective way to slim down?

(...while continuing to eat without dieting)

Even if conventional means are ineffective in making you lose weight, even if you think you've tried everything, can you answer this question:

Would you like to be at your ideal weight within a month? (in 3 weeks if the number of kilos you want to lose is less than 18 kilos)

You must have heard of these revolutionary fruit acids which have amazing effects on the youthfulness of skin. Their effectiveness is really amazing and unprecedentedly successful in the USA. Today, fruit acids are taking on unwanted kilos using the major discovery of Hydroxicitric Acid, (found in a very rare tropical fruit with extraordinary properties: Garcinia Cambogia).

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– The indisputable effect of the new fruit acid on your weight is scientifically PROVEN.

– This "Fruit Acid" helps people slim down (or stay slim) who have never slimmed down before

– You can lose 1 to 3 kilos (or more) the very first week and finally have the body you dreamed of

– You can eat what you like, whenever you like

Our scientists themselves know it

All our scientists know very well that their American colleagues have established the amazing slimming action of Hydoxicitric acid. Their recent discoveries prove indisputably that this fruit acid increases thermogenesis, inhibits lipogenesis and naturally reduces appetite. Not only, you don't store new fat, but you also burn the stored fat you hold in reserve, even if it has been there for several years.

You will lose weight almost inspite of yourself

This extraordinary fruit acid (sold under the name "Mag Tab" that you can order right now for a free trial*) is a formidable fat-devouring acid which naturally reduces your appetite and helps you slim down confidently, knowing that you will lose weight without hunger or fatigue.

Tests conducted on 11 cases and 2 exceptional cases: NO FAILURES

A test was carried out on men and women of all ages who needed to lose 5 to 25 kilos in 30 days. Success in 99.8% of cases. The most amazing aspect is that 6 months later none of them have taken on new weight.

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Even better. André, 40, 1.84 m, 146 kgs, and Gisele, 32, 1.62 m, 95 kgs are two special cases. For 10 years they had tried all sorts of experiments. For 10 years they could not lose more than 3 kilos per month. Suddenly, this simple experiment started helping them to lose weight. They lost up to 25 kilos a month until 2 months later they were at their ideal normal weight for the first time in their lives.

Visible results right away

All you have to do is take two capsules in the morning at breakfast and two capsules at night before bed. While changing nothing in your eating habits, without hunger or fatigue, you will slim down gradually and steadily by 500 g to 1.2 kg per day the first week. Then you will lose between 2.8 and 5 kgs per week to quickly reach your ideal weight. The results will be visible in the first few days. You will see very quickly that your body is becoming slimmer and slimmer until it reaches its ideal shape. Then, with the Hydroxicitric acid acting directly on the "absorption/combustion" balance of your body fat, your weight will remain steady with no new weight gain.

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